

World to have 6.13b people by 2000

GENEVA (R) — By the year 2000 the present world population of 4.76 billion will have swelled to 6.13 billion and most of the increase will be in countries least able to afford it, the United Nations said Tuesday. The U.N. Fund for Population Activities said in a report that world population would stabilise around the year 2100 at about 10.2 billion, when the number dying would match births. The fund said the gap between developed and developing countries was widening further and the current per capita income in the richest nations was 220 times that of the poorest ones. Despite an overall slow-down in world population growth, the populations of many developing countries were continuing to grow at high rates. "This is undercutting the quality of life for many millions of people," the report said.

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King sends good wishes to N.Yemen

AMMAN (Petra) — His Majesty King Hussein Tuesday sent a cable of good wishes to North Yemeni President Ali Abdullah Saleh on the anniversary of "the corrective movement" in North Yemen. In his cable, King Hussein wished President Saleh success in the leadership of his country and people and further progress and prosperity for North Yemen.

Arafat to attend Berlinguer funeral

ROME (R) — Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) Chairman Yasser Arafat will attend the funeral of Italian Communist Party Secretary Enrico Berlinguer in Rome Wednesday, the PLO representative in Italy said. Abdul Fatah Kalkili told Reuters Mr. Arafat would arrive Wednesday morning from Tunisia accompanied by Farouk Kaddoumi, head of the PLO Political Department. Mr. Arafat was last in Rome in September 1982, when he met Mr. Berlinguer, Italian government officials, and Pope John Paul II.

Dutch parliament debates missiles

THE HAGUE (R) — The Dutch government Tuesday began an attempt to win over parliament to a compromise proposal on siting cruise missiles in the Netherlands, with its fate hanging on a few undecided votes. Parliament opened two days of debate on the coalition cabinet's plan, which makes siting conditional on East-West developments, in an expanded hearing of the foreign and defence committees.

Scuffles at Cairo election hearings

CAIRO (R) — Scuffles broke out between government supporters and members of the opposition Wafd party as a court opened hearings into Wafd charges of irregularities in last month's Egyptian general elections. A Reuters reporter at the Cairo administrative court said the scuffles broke out in the court foyer between some 130 supporters of the ruling National Democratic Party (NDP) and about 10 Wafd members.

Denktash begins 'state visit' to Turkey

ANKARA (R) — A 21-gun salute thundered over Ankara airport Tuesday as Turkish Cypriot leader Rauf Denktash arrived for a two-day state visit to the only country to recognise his self-proclaimed state. President Cevdet Evren, Prime Minister Furgut Ozal and most cabinet ministers greeted Mr. Denktash as he stepped down from a Turkish air force plane to a full presidential welcome. The red-carpet treatment underlined Turkey's solid support for the Turkish Cypriot state which declared its independence last November to a chorus of condemnation around the world.

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Iraq says new Iranian war offensive is imminent

BAHRAIN (Agencies) — Iraqi President Saddam Hussein said Tuesday a fresh Iranian Gulf war offensive was imminent as a leading Iranian figure ruled out peace negotiations to end the 45-month-old Gulf war.

The Iraqi news Agency (INA) quoted President Hussein as saying: "You have to expect the enemy's offensive at any time... be ready to crush the enemy's head and fire the bullet of mercy at the dying mule to finish it off."

Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister Tariq Aziz meanwhile confirmed Iraqi forces had been ordered to halt attacks on civilian targets with effect from midnight GMT Monday night.

In a message to United Nations Secretary-General Javier Perez de Cuellar, he said the Iraqi armed forces were fully committed to President Hussein's acceptance of the U.N. chief's appeal for a halt to the attacks.

In Tehran, Iranian parliament Speaker Hojatollah Hashemi Rafsanjani was quoted as saying "there will be no negotiations in the war just as we have always said."

Mr. Rafsanjani, who is Iranian leader Ayatollah Ruhollah Khomeini's representative on the Iranian "supreme defence council", was speaking before the agreement not to attack civilian centres was due to come into force.

The agreement by both sides not to attack civilian targets appeared to be holding Tuesday, although Iraq accused Iran of one violation shortly after the pact came into effect.

Before the pact came into force four Iraqi missiles hit the southwestern Iranian city of Dezful in the latest of a series of retaliatory strikes against Iranian border shelling of Iraqi border towns.

The attack was the third missile strike on Dezful in five days. Iran has said more than 20 were killed and 150 wounded in the earlier attacks.

A military communique issued in Baghdad said Iranian gunners shelled the border town of Zurbatiyeh for 20 minutes after the midnight GMT deadline agreed. But it reported no other attack on population centres after the agreed time. Up to midnight, it said, Iranian artillery had hit the

port of Basra and the towns of Khanaqin and Mandali, injuring civilians and destroying 30 houses.

In Basra, the commander of Iraq's Third Army corps, Major-General Maher Abed Al Rashid, said the agreement had been respected.

But he told reporters: "I don't think it's going to last."

Gen. Rashid also said he believed Iran had massed 150,000 to 200,000 troops in the area facing his men on the southern front and might attack at any time.

In Washington, U.S. Defence Secretary Casper Weinberger said Monday the war, which has recently included strikes against Arab and foreign tankers in the Gulf, had the potential to expand into a wider conflict (See page 2).

Developments, including a dogfight in which at least one Iranian jet was downed by Saudi fighters, have heightened concern among member states of the Gulf Cooperation Council, which fear the spread of Iran's brand of revolutionary Islam.

Foreign ministers of the council, which groups Saudi Arabia, Bahrain, Kuwait, Oman, Qatar, and the United Arab Emirates, were gathering in the Saudi summer capital of Taif Tuesday for talks expected to include aerial attacks on their ships.

Officials of the Gulf alliance said the ministers were to review recommendations adopted Sunday by an oil ministers' conference in Taif on action to maintain constant oil shipments smoothly to world markets.

Kuwait's cabinet of ministers held an emergency session Monday and formally accused Iran of attacking the Kuwaiti tanker Kazima on Sunday, west of the Strait of Hormuz at the southern tip of the Gulf.

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Israeli soldiers kill 2 in S. Lebanon village

SIDON (R) — Two members of the Shi'ite Muslim movement Amal were killed by Israeli troops in the southern village of Bourj Rahhal Monday night, Amal sources said Tuesday.

They said an Israeli armoured force that entered the village was confronted by residents using sticks and stones. Amal named two of its members it said were killed by Israeli fire.

Beirut Radio said three other people in the village, nine kilometres northeast of Tyre, were wounded.

An Israeli military spokesman said one person was killed and another wounded when a crowd "attacked" an Israeli patrol which went to Bourj Rahhal to make several arrests.

The patrol "retreated while shooting," the spokesman said.

In a separate incident, three Lebanese were killed near the village of Tibnin when a bomb they were preparing exploded, the spokesman said.

Amal sources said Israeli troops also clashed with villagers when they entered Maarakah, 10 kilometres east of Tyre, and detained three people.

Israeli soldiers set up checkpoints outside the two villages and on the coast road between Tyre and the Qasbiyeh Bridge

eight kilometres north, security sources said.

In the Tibnin incident, the Israeli spokesman said, soldiers found two bodies next to a bomb after going to investigate an explosion near the village, five kilometres southeast of Nabatiyeh.

The spokesman said the two people apparently were killed while preparing the bomb.

Israeli troops have come under increasing attack from resistance forces in South Lebanon while trying to recruit more locals into the Israeli-backed militia called the "South Lebanese army."

Later on Tuesday, Timur Goksel, spokesman for the United Nations Interim Force in Lebanon (UNIFIL), said angry demonstrations erupted in Bourj Rahhal after the slaying of two Lebanese men.

Mr. Goksel said the villagers built barricades of old cars and stones and stood guard armed with axes, knives, sticks and iron bars. He said the Senehalese battalion of the UNIFIL was called in to try to return calm, but the situation remained tense.

Villagers in Bourj Rahhal told the UNIFIL soldiers that the Israelis had entered the village in civilian vehicles and dressed in civilian clothes.



His Majesty King Hussein bids farewell to His Highness Prince Abdullah as His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan chats with Prime Minister Ahmad 'Obeidat at Amman airport before the King and the prime minister, accompanied by Royal

Court Chief Marwan Al Qasem and Armed Forces Commander-in-Chief Lieutenant-General Sharif Zaid Ibn Shaker, left Amman Tuesday on a two-day visit to Oman (Petra photo)

Hussein arrives in Oman for talks with Qaboos on situation in Gulf

MUSCAT (Agencies) — His Majesty King Hussein arrived in the southern Omani city of Salalah Tuesday on a two-day official visit for talks with Sultan Qaboos Ibn Sa'id expected to centre on the Iran-Iraq war.

The Jordanian News Agency, Petra, said the King, who was accompanied by Prime Minister Ahmad 'Obeidat, Royal Court Chief Marwan Al Qasem, Armed Forces Commander-in-Chief Lieutenant-General Sharif Zaid Ibn Shaker, was accorded a warm welcome at a ceremony upon his arrival by Sultan Qaboos and senior Omani officials.

The King was expected to begin official talks later Tuesday with Sultan Qaboos on the latest developments in the Gulf war and its effect on the Gulf Arab states. Petra said. The talks will also cover co-ordination and co-operation between Jordan and Oman.

The King, who has already visited Kuwait and Bahrain and is also likely to go to the other three member states of the Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC) — Saudi Arabia, Qatar and the United Arab Emirates — was expected to pledge his country's full

support for the Gulf states in the event of any escalation of the war.

The King was seen off at Amman airport by His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan, His Highness Prince Abdullah, Speaker of the Upper House of Parliament Ahmad Al Lawzi, Court Minister Adnan Abu Odeh, Chief Chamberlain Prince Ra'd Ibn Zaid, cabinet members, senior officials and Oman's Ambassador to Jordan Abdullah Sa'id Abdullah.

Before the King's departure, Crown Prince Hassan was sworn in as Regent.

105 killed, 250 wounded in Monday's shelling Lebanese parliament endorses Karami cabinet's programme

BEIRUT (Agencies) — The Lebanese parliament voted confidence in Prime Minister Rashid Karami's "national unity" government Tuesday by 53 votes to 15.

Three deputies abstained in the vote, which ended a parliamentary debate spread over eight days and punctuated by outbreaks of shelling between rival militias which controlled the two halves of the divided capital.

Many of the 27 deputies who spoke in the debate criticised Mr. Karami for failing to stop the fighting. At least 180 people have been killed and 800 wounded in Beirut alone since he named his Muslim-Christian team on April 30.

In one of Beirut's worst-ever days of shelling Monday, some 105 were killed and 250 wounded, most of them civilians in the mainly Muslim Western sector of the capital.

The deputies also voted to hold a separate debate on Mr. Karami's controversial request for special powers to rule by decree. Many members who gave the prime minister their confidence are expected to oppose the request.

The 71 deputies present extended the life of the parliament for a further two years. No elections have been held since 1973 because of intermittent civil war in

the country.

The vote of confidence came more than three weeks after the new cabinet approved a policy programme pledging to restore law and order, and the Israeli occupation of the south and introduce political reforms in favour of the Muslim majority.

Although the government includes four political or military leaders of the nation's principal militias, only one of them showed up for Tuesday's session that followed the worst bombardment of residential neighbourhoods in four months.

Pierre Gemayel, President Amin Gemayel's father and leader of the rightist mainly Christian Falange Party, joined Mr. Karami and four other ministers on the government bench shortly after the session was opened.

Absent were former President Camille Chamoun, head of the overall rightist coalition known as the "Lebanese Front" who serves as finance minister, Progressive Socialist Party (PSP) leader and Public Works Minister Walid Junblatt and Shi'ite Muslim militia commander Nabih Berri, the state minister for southern Lebanon.

Sporadic machine gun fire cracked in the distance, along with occasional bursts of rocket-propelled grenades, as parliament took the vote of confidence at its

headquarters in the no-man's land between mostly Christian east and mainly Muslim west Beirut.

Police said the rounds were fired in the air for the funerals of victims killed on both sides of the capital's "green line" during Monday's random bombardment.

Some newspapers said Monday was the bloodiest day in Beirut since the beginning of the Lebanese civil war over nine years ago, excluding the three months of the 1982 Israeli invasion.

According to the casualty lists, over 80 per cent of the deaths were in the western sector of the city. About 12 people were killed in east Beirut and mainly Christian areas on the coast north of the capital.

Both sides — Progressive Socialist Party (PSP) and Shi'ite Muslim fighters in the west and mostly Christian right-wing militias in the east — blamed the other for the bombardment, which shook the city for at least three hours until a ceasefire took hold at 9 p.m. (1800 GMT).

The Shi'ite Muslim Amal militia issued a statement saying rightist forces in east Beirut had initiated the violence and implied that they were trying to block Muslim demands for a radical restructuring of the mainly Christian-officered army.

quivalent rejection of the 1978 U.S.-sponsored Camp David accords between Egypt and Israel.

It also demands that PLO contacts with the Jordanian government be restricted to PNC resolutions.

Mr. Arafat's surprise visit to Cairo last December, after he was forced out of North Lebanon by Palestinian dissidents, and his talks with Jordanian leaders on a joint approach to Middle East peace have irked Palestinian radicals.

A spokesman for the democratic alliance told Reuters its delegates to the Aden meeting would demand wide-ranging reforms of the PLO structures to ensure better representation of Palestinian factions.

Shamir to build more settlements

THE OCCUPIED WEST BANK (AP) — Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir laid the first stone for a West Bank settlement Tuesday and said Israel's border extends "up to the Jordan River." He said the future of the occupied West Bank would be the main issue in the July 23 national elections. "The moral of Zionism for 1984 is more settlements," Mr. Shamir told about 200 officials, workers and residents who gathered in this town 16 kilometres east of Kfar Sava, a border town before Israel occupied the West Bank in 1967. Officials gathered at the site said they hoped to have a settlement finished there within a year, with about 500 families.

Perez de Cuellar arrives in Tel Aviv Israel reiterates rejection of call for U.N. conference

TEL AVIV (Agencies) — Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir, in a meeting Tuesday with U.N. Secretary-General Javier Perez de Cuellar, reiterated his government's categorical rejection of a proposed international peace conference on the Middle East.

Avi Pazner, Mr. Shamir's spokesman, told reporters after the 90-minute meeting that Israel feared such a conference would produce "what usually goes on at the United Nations, meaning that Israel would immediately come under attack."

The renewed Israeli objection to an international peace conference under U.N. auspices came a day after His Majesty King Hussein voiced strong support for the proposal. King Hussein said some form of multinational conference involving all the parties involved and the two superpowers offered the only hope for ending the Arab-Israeli conflict.

During his meeting with Mr. Perez de Cuellar in Amman, King Hussein assured the U.N. secretary general that Jordan was keen to co-operate with the world body for a just peace in the Middle East.

He stressed that Jordan had worked and would continue to work for "a just, permanent and comprehensive peace that ensured the legitimate national rights of the Palestinian Arab people," the Jordanian News Agency, Petra, said.

Petra said King Hussein also praised the U.N. chief's efforts to stop Iran and Iraq hitting each other's cities in the 44-month-old Gulf war.

Mr. Perez de Cuellar, who has visited Cairo, Damascus, Beirut and Amman in the past week, was scheduled to hold two rounds of

discussions with Mr. Shamir later Tuesday.

The U.N. chief told reporters Monday night in Amman that in all the four Arab capitals he had found a "very genuine interest in the participation of the United Nations in the overall solution" of the Middle East problem.

Upon his departure from Amman Tuesday, Mr. Perez de Cuellar said that it is important to establish a durable and comprehensive peace in the Middle East.

The secretary general voiced appreciation of King Hussein, His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan and Jordanian officials for allowing him the visit to Jordan where he "exchanged views on the problems of the region and came to understand better the Jordanian views on various matters, including the Gulf war."

Foreign Minister Taher Al Masri, who saw Mr. Perez de Cuellar off at the airport described the secretary general's meetings with Jordanian leaders as successful and fruitful.

"I believe that Jordan has facilitated Mr. Perez de Cuellar's mission, since our views on subjects discussed were identical," Mr. Masri said.

Jordan gave priority in the talks to the holding of the proposed international conference on the Middle East, "but other possibilities were also discussed," Mr. Masri said.

Whether at the international conference or other forums, Jordan will demand the implementation of U.N. Resolutions on the issue and will not seek new basis for negotiations because the basis lies in Resolution 242 and when we take part in negotiations we will have this purpose in mind."

Mitterrand to visit Jordan

AMMAN (Petra) — French President Francois Mitterrand and his wife will pay an official visit to Jordan in the second week of July at an invitation of Their Majesties King Hussein and Queen Noor, an announcement by the Royal Court said Tuesday.

In Paris, French External Affairs Minister Claude Cheysson said the visit reflects the importance of Jordan and its historic role in the Middle East.

Addressing the Foreign Relations Committee at the French parliament, Mr. Cheysson said President Mitterrand will discuss with King Hussein developments in the Middle East region.

The visit and the talks fall within the course of French contacts with

parties directly concerned with the Middle East problem so as to contribute towards finding just solutions to them. Mr. Cheysson said.

Reuters quoted diplomatic sources in Paris as saying the visit, Mr. Mitterrand's first to Jordan since he took office in May 1981, was expected to include wide-ranging talks on Middle East issues including the Iran-Iraq Gulf war.

King Hussein and Mr. Mitterrand, who met in Paris last December, have both been firm supporters of Iraq in its 45-month conflict with Iran.

In his three years in office, Mr. Mitterrand has managed to maintain good French relations with most of the Arab World.

Ex-detainees group to help Palestinian prisoners in Israel

By Leila G. Deeb
Reuters

AMMAN — Former Palestinian prisoners released by Israel have formed a new pressure group to try to win international support for efforts to get better treatment for those still detained.

Called the "League for the Defence of Palestinian Detainees and Prisoners in the Zionist Enemy Prisons," the group of seven ex-prisoners include some released from the Ansar detention camp in southern Lebanon last November in exchange for six Israelis held by the Palestinians.

None of the seven would agree to be named, but a spokesman for the group told Reuters they would work with world human rights groups, including London-based Amnesty International, to win for prisoners held in Israel the rights provided under Geneva Conventions and the U.N. Declaration of Human Rights.

He said there were still more than 12,000 Palestinians held as prisoners and detainees in Israel and in the occupied West Bank. "After 17 years in Israeli jails, these prisoners continue to suffer from deprivation of the simplest forms of human rights," he added.

Delegates boycott Costa Rican president's speech at ILO

GENEVA (Agencies) — Hun-

ders of Arab, socialist and non-aligned delegates on Tuesday

walked out of an International Labour Organisation (ILO) conference during a speech by Costa Rican President Luis Alberto Monge to protest the move of his nation's embassy to Jerusalem.

The walkout by Arab and Islamic states, the Soviet Union and its allies, China and a number of non-aligned nations including India, included a good majority of the 1,800 delegates, and was said by ILO officials to be the biggest

ever at their annual conference. In a statement after the walkout, Arab countries called Costa Rica's moving its embassy from Tel Aviv, where most nations maintain their embassies, to Jerusalem "an encouragement to Israel to pursue its policy of expansion and annexation of territories by force."

Muslim countries decided last April to sever relations with Costa Rica and El Salvador because they moved their embassies from Tel Aviv to occupied Jerusalem.

Washington welcomes ceasefire, but expects Iranian offensive

WASHINGTON (AP) — The Iran-Iraq ceasefire is the most welcome development this year in the Gulf war, but President Ronald Reagan's administration still expects a massive Iranian offensive, a key U.S. Middle East policy adviser told Congress on Monday.

"We think the Iraqis will hold (out)," said Richard W. Murphy, assistant U.S. secretary of state for Near East affairs. But, he added, the fighting is likely to be "an exceptionally bloody affair."

Mr. Murphy told the Middle East subcommittee of the House of Representatives that the land war would "probably get worse" and that U.S. officials expect Iran to use the troops it has been massing near Basra, Iraq, in a "final offensive."

The ceasefire mediated by United Nations Secretary-General Javier Perez de Cuellar is the "most encouraging development in the last six months," but it is doubtful it can be extended, he said, noting that Iran remains "intransigent" about entering peace talks.

Opposition Democratic Representative Lee Hamilton, chairman of the subcommittee and a

leading champion of Congress' role in foreign policy, led other members of the panel in criticising the Reagan administration's decision to sell 400 Stinger anti-aircraft missiles to Saudi Arabia.

"I do not see that an emergency existed" that warranted the administration's skirting the usual procedure of submitting the sale to congressional review, Mr. Hamilton said.

"The emergency was apparent," said Mr. Murphy. The war was spreading southward into the Gulf, with 10 tankers sunk or damaged in the days leading up to the decision's being made last May 25, he said.

"It was an act of prudence," he added. Saudi Arabia "faced an escalating danger," and the missiles "enabled a close friend to feel the confidence" to act in its own self-defence, he said.

The administration had pro-

posed selling some 1,200 of the shoulder-fired anti-aircraft missiles to Saudi Arabia last March, but withdrew the request and a similar one for Jordan in the face of strong opposition by supporters of Israel.

Maj. Gen. Edward L. Tixier, the Defence Department's top expert on the Middle East, acknowledged to the panel that the Stinger had shortcomings, but that it was the best available short-range missile in the world since it could be fired at planes while they are attacking and not just as they are leaving.

He said the Saudis still are learning how to use the missiles and that they would not be deployed for another two weeks. He confirmed that the missiles would be used to protect land installations like oil depots and desalination plants.

In spite of the attacks on tankers carrying Saudi oil, the missiles will not be used on tankers, but will be used on Saudi naval vessels, Gen. Tixier said.

Gen. Tixier disputed assertions that the Stinger is a formidable terrorist weapon. "It's not nearly the terrorist weapon of a (Soviet-made Sam-7)," Gen. Tix-

ier said. "It's a great big thing," whereas two Sam-7s can be carried in an ordinary suitcase.

Pro-Israel congressmen have said they fear the Stingers could fall into the hands of the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) and be used against civilian airliners.

Gen. Tixier and Mr. Murphy said U.S. officials "have investigated every assertion" that Saudi Arabia had passed on U.S.-supplied arms to the PLO and found nothing to support the claim.

Israeli officials claimed they found U.S.-supplied M-16s and training ammunition with Saudi markings in a PLO cache during the 1982 invasion of Lebanon.

But Mr. Murphy and Gen. Tixier said that despite U.S. requests for more information, Israeli officials have provided nothing more in two years than a photocopy of a shipping label from the ammunition supplied in 1977.

A check of the M-16 serial numbers showed that the United States had sold them to the Lebanese government. "We've never sold M-16s to Saudi Arabia," said Mr. Murphy.



Caspar Weinberger

Weinberger says Gulf war could expand

WASHINGTON (R) — U.S. Defence Secretary Caspar Weinberger said Monday the Iran-Iraq war had the potential to expand into a larger conflict and suggested that the Soviet Union might take advantage of the situation in the Gulf.

Answering questions at a conference organised by the American Stock Exchange, Mr. Weinberger said the war had the potential for "exploding into something that would involve far more countries and people than just Iran and Iraq."

He said it was in the Soviet interest to deny the West access to Gulf oil. "And while they haven't actively entered anything over there yet, these are very troubled waters and that's the kind of place they like most to fish in."

Mr. Weinberger said it was impossible to get any kind of rational reaction from the present Iranian government.

"Their demands are totally irresponsible and can never be met by any other nation," he said.

"I have to be rather pessimistic about an immediate solution."

Rebels claim vast campaign against Khomeini

PARIS (AP) — Iran's internal rebel movement has mounted a vast campaign of tracts and slogans denouncing the "bloody tyranny and repression" of Ayatollah Ruhollah Khomeini, exiled rebel leader Massoud Rajavi said Tuesday.

In a statement from his Paris headquarters, Mr. Rajavi said security forces have been put on full alert throughout Iran to counter the campaign, intended to mark the second anniversary of a massacre of unarmed anti-Khomeini demonstrators in Tehran.

Mr. Rajavi said rebel groups in cities throughout Iran have covered walls with slogans and illegally distributed tens of thousands of leaflets denouncing the Khomeini regime. They claim the regime has executed 40,000 political prisoners and put at least 120,000 fighters in the unlimited detention.

Security Council hails Gulf accord

UNITED NATIONS (R) — The U.N. Security Council which has been repeatedly thwarted in efforts to end the Gulf war, Monday hailed the accord between Iran and Iraq to desist from attacking civilian targets.

At the same time Baghdad, accusing Tehran of shelling Iraqi border towns, launched a missile attack against the southern city of Duzful where Iran said four rockets hit residential areas Monday night, killing at least 14 people and wounding 150.

Delegates who attended a closed meeting of the council called by its president for the month, Britain's Sir John Thomson, said all members supported Secretary General Javier Perez de Cuellar's initiative which produced the agreement.

They said the council also welcomed the positive replies received from Iran and Iraq to his appeal and expressed support for his intention to hold further contacts with both parties.

A brief statement authorised by Sir John Thomson said he was asked to convey the members' views to the secretary general and that they decided to "remain closely in touch."

Asked if the council would announce a mechanism to monitor observance of the accord, one Western diplomat told reporters: "It would be a mistake for the council to start going into details as to what should be done."

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UDD to start rehousing 6,000 in September

AMMAN (J.T.) — The Urban Development Department (UDD) will begin distributing housing units to low-income families in September and nearly 6,000 families will benefit from these units, UDD Director Hisam Al Zagha was quoted as saying.

He told Al Dustour Arabic newspaper that the UDD will distribute 100 units a month starting September and up until the middle of 1986.

The units, built under the implementation of the "urban development project", have been set up at Marka, Queismeh, and Rusafa, all suburbs of Amman. Dr. Zagha said.

He added that the UDD has received 8,000 applications for the units but only 6,000 have been accepted because only they meet the requirements and terms which the department has set out.

The UDD has now started calling the applicants to complete the necessary procedures before handing over the units whose prices will be fixed later by a special committee appointed by the department, Dr. Zagha pointed out.

Yarmouk University to hold graduation today

IRBID (J.T.) — Yarmouk University is to hold a celebration Wednesday to graduate 1,100 students from its various faculties. University President Adnan Badran will present the degrees to the graduates from the faculties of art, sciences, economics and business administration and engineering, in addition to postgraduates in Arabic, engineering and education.

Dr. Badran will also distribute awards to those students who have excelled in their courses.

On Thursday evening, a celebration will be held at Al Hussein Youth City for the graduation of 2,237 students from the University of Jordan. (See lead story).

Speaker of the Upper House of Parliament Ahmad Al Lawzi will attend the graduation ceremony.

New taxis must seat 7, says energy head

AMMAN (J.T.) — The Jordanian government has stopped issuing licences to cars for use as taxis unless they seat seven passengers.

This step was taken in a bid to save fuel, and does not mean that the new type of cars should be run by diesel oil, according to Dr. Ibrahim Badran, director of the energy department at the Ministry of Industry, Trade and Tourism.

He said that the decision will not affect the cars already in use as taxis but rather only to those which are being given licences as taxis for the first time.

Tabba'a returns from Bahrain

AMMAN (Petra) — President of the Federation of Jordanian Chambers of Commerce Hamdi Tabba'a has returned to Amman from a visit to Bahrain where he took part in the meeting of the constituent assembly of the Arab Agricultural Investment Company.

Mr. Tabba'a said that the participants at the three day meeting reviewed the steps taken so far to bring the company into existence. "This is an important pan-Arab

venture because it will implement agricultural and industrial projects that will help the Arab Nation achieve food security," Mr. Tabba'a said.

The assembly reviewed replies by Arab governments on the prospect of allowing company shares to be sold to the public in their respective countries.

Jordan has agreed to offer two per cent of the shares for sale in the country, he said.

Jordan's big push to protect environment

AMMAN (J.T.) — Jordan, along with other world nations, marked Environment Day on June 5, and the department of environment at the Ministry of Municipal and Rural Affairs and the Environment issued an appeal to the public to protect the environment, that is water, the atmosphere, soil, trees, and plants, and to take whatever measures possible to prevent pollution of any kind in Jordan.

The department also issued a bulletin containing measures which it has undertaken since its establishment, in co-operation with local town councils, and announced the range of fines which it will impose on violators of the relevant laws.

Water resources

A departmental official said the office is co-operating with the Ministry of Health, the Natural Resources Authority (NRA) and other government agencies in protecting surface and ground water resources and controlling the use of water by people and industries with a view to preventing the pollution of water springs.

In this concern, the department has prepared several working papers on the protection of water basins in Jordan, and a defence order was issued recently containing measures to safeguard water resources in the water basins of Baqa, Zarqa, and Amman.

The department co-ordinates its work with other government departments in selecting sites for the building of wastewater treatment plants, controlling water networks, reservoirs and other related projects.

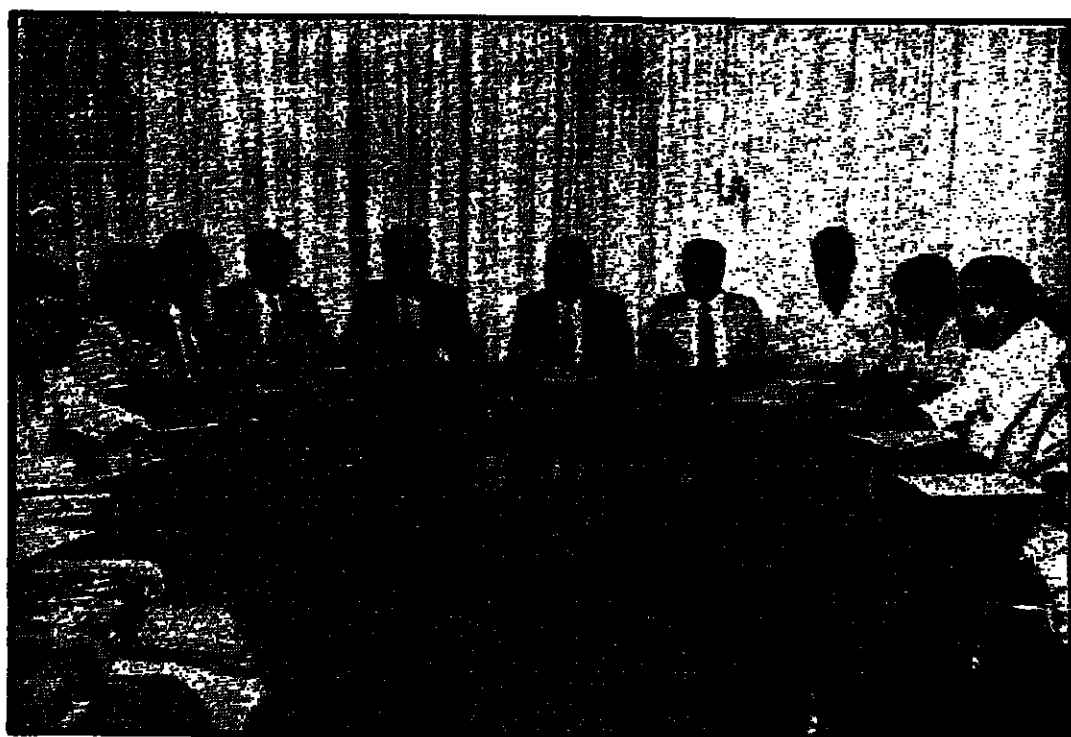
The department also takes part in seminars on ways of using water, and continues to advise factories which use mineral oil to co-operate with the Jordan Petroleum Refinery Company on its use and disposal.

Atmosphere

The official said that it has specific regulations requiring guarantees from industrial businesses not to pollute the air.

Soil, land

The department official said



Minister of Agriculture Mohammad Bashir (centre) gives a press conference at which he outlined the

procedure for the counting of goats and sheep in the Kingdom (Petra photo)

Week long sheep, goat count begins

AMMAN (J.T.) — A general count of sheep and goats in the kingdom started Tuesday and the process is expected to last a whole week.

Minister of Agriculture Mohammad Bashir told a press conference that a total of 156 committees have been set up to conduct the counting, each made up of three members and a lorry driver to help in the procedure.

The committees are spread over 167 centres appointed in 13 different departments of agriculture around the country, Mr. Bashir said.

The counting process will cost about JD 170,000, Mr. Bashir added.

When the whole count is completed, the minister said, farmers and livestock breeders will be issued with a certificate of ownership indicating the district, the number of animals he owns and other information useful for the owner and the ministry.

New certificates will be issued to farmers and breeders at the agricultural centres when animals are bought or sold.

The purpose of counting the animals is to determine the type and volume of veterinary service they need and the amount of fodder that should be made available for them, the minister explained.

Also, he pointed out, counting animals will prevent any false claims by livestock breeders about the number of animals they own when they apply for subsidised fodder from the Jordan Co-operative Organisation (JCO).

In the past, he said, some breeders have been given more than they are entitled to, and they have sold the excess in the open market.

He said that the last such measure took place in 1979 when it was found that the country had 1.5 million head of sheep and goats in the various regions.

Due to poor rainfall last season, the country has only limited sources of animal feed, and the Ministry of Agriculture has had to open 210 dunums of forest land on which for animals to graze, and these will remain open until July 20, the minister pointed out.

In order to deal with the effects of the current drought, the JCO has imported barley and bran and is selling them to the farmers at JD 55 for each tonne of barley and JD 35 for bran.

In order to help with the counting procedure, Prime Minister Ahmad 'Obeidat Tuesday issued a circular urging all government departments to supply as many vehicles and lorries as possible to the committees in charge of counting the livestock to help speed up the operation.

Smugglers caught at border

AMMAN (J.T.) — Nearly 80 kilograms of gold being smuggled into Jordan in a car from an Arab Gulf state was seized by customs authorities at the border, according to reports in the local press Tuesday.

The smuggled merchandise, which consisted of Italian-made jewellery, was found hidden in a secret compartment in the car.

The gold, was being smuggled to benefit a number of Jordanian merchants. The smugglers have been referred to court for trial and the gold seized by the authorities.

Hotelier vanishes with money

AMMAN (J.T.) — The manager of a Jordanian hotel is reported to have vanished after borrowing more than JD 1 million from local banks and financial institutions.

A report in Al Ra'i daily Arabic newspaper Tuesday said that the man, whose identity was not revealed, sold his hotel and accumulated nearly a million dinars before disappearing.

He is thought to have left the country and the authorities investigating the matter are now expected to take action to arrest him and retrieve the money, the report said.

Record number of students to graduate from university

AMMAN (Petra) — The University of Jordan will Thursday graduate 2,237 students from its various faculties, the largest such number to graduate in one year. Of this number, 93 will receive a Masters degree and 166 will be presented with postgraduate diplomas, President of the University of Jordan Abdul Salam Al Majali announced here Tuesday.

Addressing a press conference on the occasion of the graduation of the university's 19th batch of students this year, Dr. Majali said that the university has 11,518 students at present, of whom 51 per cent are male and the rest are female.

In the past academic year, the university has accepted 3,032 students, of whom 220 were postgraduates, Dr. Majali said.

Also in the past academic year, he added, the university has selected the 30 most promising students in their third year of study to prepare them for a special orientation programme.

These students have met His

Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan, Prime Minister Ahmad 'Obeidat and toured various economic projects in Jordan, and soon they will be given the opportunity to visit Arab and non-Arab states to look into their achievements and to meet their leaders, Dr. Majali explained.

In his press conference, Dr. Majali spoke of the development of education in Jordan and the achievements of the University of Jordan in this field.

The university of Jordan is among the very few Arab universities which offer summer courses and "we receive an average of 300 non-Jordanian students every

year for the summer courses," Dr. Majali said.

After witnessing the continuous political developments in the Middle East, Jordanians and Palestinians have come to realise that education lies at the foundation of their existence and this idea has been enthusiastically endorsed by His Majesty King Hussein who endeavours to promote education in Jordan, Dr. Majali said.

He said that Jordan faces challenges far beyond its capacity and its resources, but the presence of its wise leadership has helped the country to progress.

This leadership believes that the citizen is the most precious asset to Jordan, and the most important part of the citizen is his or her brain. The most efficient way of developing the brain, Dr. Majali said, is through education.

At the end of his address, Dr. Majali answered questions from newsmen and representatives of the information services in Jordan.

60,000 studying abroad, report says

AMMAN (J.T.) — The fact that large numbers of Jordanian students are receiving their education abroad has been confirmed by a Ministry of Education report, according to a story published Monday in the local daily Arab newspaper Al Dustour.

The report confirms that some 60,000 Jordanian male and female students are studying abroad and spending an estimated mon-

thly amount of JD 7 million, which totals JD 80 million a year.

This huge number of Jordanian students studying abroad and the ever-spiralling costs of so doing demand that we find a solution, and Jordanian universities are required to conduct a study on this problem and to open their doors to a large number of these students if not most of them, the report said.

The report subdivided the number of students studying abroad in terms of course specialisation as follows: Education 333; fine art 382; humanities 10,465; sociology 3,197; business administration 8,520; law and Islamic education 4,605; theology 11; science 3,748; medicine 7,596; engineering 15,838; agriculture 1,400; home economics 31 and other specialisations 4,102.

Ajlouni hosts health talks in Salt

SALT (Petra) — Minister of Health Kamel Ajlouni met health officials and citizens from the Balqa Governorate in the Ogba Ibn Nafe' School courtyard here Monday evening at an open discussion organised by the Salt health department.

Dr. Ajlouni said that the ministry is reviewing many of the services offered to the people, pointing out that the ministry is currently preparing a study on the health services in Jordan in light of the country's current circumstances.

This study will be prepared in co-operation with the University of Jordan and certain specialised institutions. It is expected to be completed within the next two weeks.

Dr. Ajlouni then explained the ministry's policy in establishing more integrated health centres that will provide all general and specialised health services.

This comes as part of a plan to spread health services evenly throughout Jordan.

He added that the ministry will grant token rewards to doctors

working in villages and rural areas and will send some of these doctors on scholarships to specialise in new subjects.

Dr. Ajlouni then replied to questions posed by those attending the discussion.

The meeting was attended by the director of financial and administrative affairs, the health insurance department head at the ministry, the Balqa governor, the mayor of Salt, the income tax director-general and directors of government departments.



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How little we learn

OUR CELEBRATION of the anniversary of the Great Arab Revolt earlier this week is an annual event that elicits mixed emotions. On the one hand, it is appropriate to honour the armed forces and the soldiers who have died over the years in the service of their country, and to recall that pan-Arab aspirations for national rights, self-respect and political dignity go back a long way. After all, when Sherif Hussein of the Hijaz launched the Arab Revolt, Jordan as a country did not exist, and Palestine as a problem was only in its infancy. Thus we suggest to those people today who ask, "why doesn't Jordan step forward and negotiate with Israel?" or "why don't the Palestinians accept autonomy under Israel or assimilation into other Arab states?" that they recall both the roots of the Palestinian problem and the roots of the Jordanian Hashemite leadership. Both Jordanians and Palestinians view their common struggle against Israel and Israel's backers in the West as a protracted battle against a denial of fundamental rights that has its genesis in the first decades of this century, and not only in 1948.

But we say the anniversary of the Great Arab Revolt evokes mixed emotions because it is also a reminder that what the Arab Revolt started has not yet been finished. In hindsight, it is evident that we suffer today from the same weakness that afflicted the Arabs in the first three decades of this century. We rely too much on what we believe is the genuine justice of our cause and of our position, and we do not act forcefully enough in the international arena to achieve our goals. The weakness we displayed in the period between 1915 and 1925 reflected our inexperience as international political actors, at a time when the nascent Zionist movement was moving through the political corridors of the Western capitals like an old pro. Sadly, we do not see very much change in this respect today. The recent American primaries season is perhaps the most dramatic example of how Israeli interests secure the attention of Western politicians, while Arab interests are more often than not subordinated to the broader concerns of Israel and its surrogates in the West.

The Israelis are viewed as dynamic, aggressive political actors, while the Arabs are either taken for granted or courted largely for their commercial and material splendours. The justice of our cause has not changed in the past 70 years. Neither, unfortunately, have our methods of fighting for our cause. To find ourselves today taking such profound political action as boycotting the speech of the Costa Rican president at the International Labour Organisation conference in Geneva is a grotesque reminder of just how little we have achieved, and learned, during this difficult century.

ARABIC PRESS EDITORIALS

Al Ra'i: Paying tribute to U.N.

PRIME MINISTER Ahmad 'Obeidat reiterated to the United Nations secretary-general Monday Jordan's readiness to take part in an international conference to discuss ways of finding peace in the Middle East. In the light of the failure of U.S. policies and Washington's alliance with Israel, and in view of Israel's continued drive to build settlements and confiscate Arab land in the occupied territories we can only have hope in an international peace conference to bring an end to the Israeli occupation and lift U.S. hegemony on the Middle East.

Mr. Perez de Cuellar's tour of the region is to be considered as the first move by the world organisation towards solving its problems, coming after vain U.S. attempts to impose its own formula, and to force the Arabs to accept Zionist occupation as de facto situation. Mr. Perez de Cuellar's tour underlines the fact that the U.S. has failed to achieve its objectives in the area. We therefore call on the U.N. to try to implement Security Council resolutions 242 and 338, despite U.S. and Israeli refusal to attend an international conference on the Middle East.

Jordan, which has suffered because of Israel's occupation and because of the settlement policies in the occupied Arab land, welcome Mr. Perez de Cuellar's initiatives and peace moves. The international conference would undoubtedly put an end to Zionist practices and occupation. We pay tribute to the U.N. which endeavours to reduce world tension and seeks to establish peace and stability throughout the world.

Al Dustour: Sound base for peace

U.N. SECRETARY-General Javier Perez de Cuellar's current tour of the Middle East has assumed great significance because it comes amidst heightened tension in the region. This tension is caused mainly by Israel's policies and its intransigence in relation to efforts to establish peace. Of course, Mr. Perez de Cuellar is striving to help bring about a peace settlement and the Arabs have responded favourably to his efforts and Jordan demands that the U.N. enforce the implementation of U.N. Security Council resolutions on the issue because these resolutions enjoy the support of most world nations.

Jordan believes that resolutions 242 and 338 serve as the best possible basis for establishing peace since they rule out the admissibility of occupying other countries' territory by force of arms and because these resolutions demand the withdrawal of Israeli forces from the occupied Arab land and the safeguarding of the Palestinian people's rights. The international peace conference assumes importance now because all U.S. policies in the region have ended in failure and because Washington has lost its credibility as a peace mediator because of its unlimited support for Israel. We have no doubt that Mr. Perez de Cuellar, who is now touring the region, will be able to study all its issues in depth and will strive to solve them and promote the image of the United Nations.

Sawt Al Shaab: An important role

JORDAN HAS a genuine desire to safeguard the role of the United Nations and to support its endeavours in tackling different world issues. Whenever there are any problems, especially ones dealing with Israel's aggression, Jordan seeks help from the U.N. because it is the only power which can determine the aggressor and call for justice to be done. Jordan, along with other Arab states, asked help from the U.N. to solve the Palestine problem during Israel's invasion of Lebanon and when Israel raided the Iraqi nuclear reactor. Jordan hopes that the U.N. can force the aggressor to desist from committing such actions and, if the aggression persists, it will be up to the U.N. to impose sanctions and penalties on the aggressor.

It is fair to say that the U.N. has always exerted all possible efforts to see justice done everywhere in the world, but its efforts have always been foiled because of the American veto at the Security Council and U.S. policies, which help Israel to pursue its aggression. Despite past experience and frustrations, we sincerely hope that the U.N. can play a leading role in ending the deadlock in the Middle East crisis and play an effective part in saving our region from further disasters and wars.

Camp David was doomed from the beginning

By Allan C. Brownfeld

This is the first of two articles in which the writer argues that the Israeli government has never intended to fulfil its commitments under the U.S.-sponsored Camp David accords with Egypt and takes a close look at the conditions in the Israeli occupied Arab territories.

Five years after Camp David it is clear that the process initiated by President Jimmy Carter has failed to bear fruit. Critics at the time pointed out that a separate peace treaty between Egypt and Israel which avoided coming to grips with the Palestinian question would, in the end, resolve nothing. In retrospect, abandoning the hope for a comprehensive Middle East settlement and substituting Camp David for such an effort may be seen as one in a long line of failures to resolve the real problems of the Middle East.

If Camp David has not been a success, the reasons have little to do with "small minds" in Egypt. In fact, from the very moment the Camp David accords were entered into, Israeli Prime Minister Begin apparently had no intention of fulfilling his commitments. It is, thus, ironic indeed to see the present Israeli government reject every Middle East proposal — such as President Ronald Reagan's 1982 initiative — as, somehow, "contrary" to Camp David, which

has been elevated to the position of being the "only" possible process in which Israel will participate.

Is it overstating the case to charge Israel with violation of its commitments at Camp David? The key American participants in the negotiation — former President Carter and former Secretary of State Cyrus Vance — definitely do not think so.

Moratorium on settlements

In the accords, Israel agreed to a moratorium on new West Bank settlements during the forthcoming negotiations with Egypt. In his book, *Hard Choices* (Simon and Schuster, 1983), Cyrus Vance notes that, "It was not until ... after the accords had been signed and announced that we realised the Prime Minister (Begin) was not going to carry through on the understanding we had reached with him. Begin contended that he had agreed only to a moratorium during the peace treaty negotiations, which were to take three months, not the au-

tonomy negotiations, which would require at least a year or more to negotiate. Since we had been discussing only the comprehensive accord and the autonomy negotiations ... it is difficult to understand how Begin could have totally misinterpreted what the President was asking." Mr. Vance declares: "The Camp David accords ... show that Israel did recognise in writing that the Palestinians had 'legitimate rights,' and would be given 'full autonomy.' Israel did commit itself to a process which, if faithfully implemented, would lead to the establishment of an elected Palestinian self-governing body and the withdrawal of the Israeli military government. Moreover, if the self-governing body acted responsibly, the autonomy process could become irreversible: that is, Israel could find it politically impossible, and from a security point of view unnecessary, to continue the status quo or to assert sovereignty after the transitional period ... Tragically, Begin altered his commitment ... he insisted that he had agreed to nothing new ... that the Palestinians would have no more than limited administrative autonomy." What the Begin government

implemented in the West Bank was its own 1977 plan which had been rejected by the Carter Administration. When he visited Washington in December, 1977, Begin repeated the Israeli insistence that the powers of the self-governing Palestinian authority, or administrative council, would derive from the Israeli Military government in the West Bank, which could revoke any powers delegated to the council. Of the Begin plan, Vance writes: "It appeared that Israel intended to retain military and, ultimately, political control over the West Bank and Gaza even under the self-rule plan ... Begin's self-rule proposal fell far short of what we believed necessary for an interim solution for the West Bank and Gaza. It appeared to be designed as a substitute for Israeli withdrawal and Palestinian self-determination, not as a first step toward these goals as envisaged in our concept."

"Like roaches in a bottle"

Israel rejected at the outset the understanding held by President Carter and President Anwar Sadat that Camp David included an Israeli commitment to abide by a moratorium on settlements during

the autonomy negotiations. While the Camp David accords explicitly provided that the agreement on the final status of the West Bank and Gaza would be submitted "to a vote by the elected representatives of the inhabitants of the West Bank and Gaza", the Israelis declared, after signing the accords, that there would never be a referendum in which the Palestinians would participate. In addition, writes Cyrus Vance: Begin now denied that there need be any withdrawal of the Israeli Defence Forces from the West Bank, although the Camp David accords specified that some Israeli forces would be withdrawn and the rest redeployed into a limited number of security locations ... Begin declared that the self-governing authority would merely be an administrative body, whereas we insisted that the powers and responsibilities of the council were to be determined in negotiations, not by Israel alone. From the American point of view, the Israeli agreement at Camp David to negotiate full autonomy in the West Bank and Gaza bound Israel to a good-faith effort to comply with the timing goals and procedures ... Israel's retreat from "full autonomy" and its unwillingness to declare a moratorium on the creation of new settlements struck an al-

most mortal blow to the hopes for success on the West Bank and Gaza.

The view that Israel was never prepared to fulfill its Camp David commitments is shared by former President Carter. In an interview with *Moment* magazine (March 1984), Carter states: "I don't believe that Prime Minister Begin or his successor has any intention of relinquishing any portion of the West Bank or Gaza. And this is a crisis of the problem. To me, this is in contravention of the Camp David Accords and of United Nations Resolution 242. If there were any indication on the part of the Likud or the present leadership that my statement just made is erroneous, it would send a wave of hope to the White House and, perhaps, to King Hussein, and, perhaps, to President Mubarak, and even others. The peace initiative could be rejuvenated."

Mr. Carter expressed the view that, "I don't see any way ultimately to have peace in the Mideast without a recognition of Palestinian rights. It's not compatible with the principles of democracy or freedom or human rights to have a large number of people, 700,000 or more, living — almost in perpetuity now — under military government." — *Middle East Perspective*

Two years after invading Lebanon Israelis find no way out

Israel trapped in Lebanon's quagmire

By David Lennon

Few people here would have believed exactly two years ago, when Israeli armoured columns thrust into Lebanon, that today, weary Israeli soldiers would still be crossing the northern border into hostile territory. "How do we get out of it?" screamed a banner headline in one of the afternoon papers last week, as it marked the second anniversary of the beginning of Israel's "war of choice" in Lebanon. "If the Likud wants to win the election in July, they will have to find a way of getting the army out of Lebanon," commented an Israeli reserve soldier, this week, as he began his fourth tour of duty in the land of the cedars. Israel did not have to invade Lebanon in June 1982. There had been no rocket or artillery attacks in northern towns for a year, thanks to an agreement reached with the PLO through the U.S.

But Israel's leaders, Mr. Menachem Begin, the prime minister, and more especially General Ariel Sharon, the defence minister, and

the chief of staff, General Rafael Eitan, wanted to crush the PLO and establish a pro-Israeli Christian government in Beirut, which would make Lebanon the second Arab state to sign a peace treaty with Israel.

The dreams have proved an illusion. The PLO was forced out but commando attacks still take place in Jerusalem and other parts of Israel. The Lebanese government has torn up the quasi-peace treaty designed in May last year and this week has announced that it intends to close down the Israeli liaison office near Beirut.

Worse, in the absence of a strong central government in Lebanon or an army capable of keeping the guerrillas out of Southern Lebanon, the Israeli army has been kept there to do the job. The price: 89 soldiers killed and 660 wounded in the past 12 months at the hands of the local Muslim resistance aided by the remnants of PLO in the region.

Total losses in the war and the subsequent occupation of Southern Lebanon have reached 583

dead and 3,400 wounded, some 2,000 of them crippled for life.

Financially, the invasion and occupation have proved a major burden on an already troubled economy. The Bank of Israel last week cited the cost of the Lebanese operation as one of the two main factors behind the current economic crisis.

The direct cost of the war, lost equipment, and munitions and fuel, was put a month after the invasion at \$1.5bn (£1.07bn). Since then, the bill has been estimated by the Bank of Israel at some \$900m, or roughly \$1.3m a day. These figures may not include the loss of productivity in the economy due to the extended periods which citizens have to spend doing reserve duty in the army.

Most Israelis are fed up with the occupation of Lebanon. They are tired of having to go to Lebanon, and afraid of being killed in attacks by the Lebanese resistance to the occupation. They also see little reason for still being there, and are aware that their government appears incapable of bringing the boys

home.

Government officials, from Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir on down, declare almost daily that Israel wants to withdraw from Lebanon. But then they add a proviso which makes any early and complete pull-out impossible. They insist that withdrawal can take place only when "security arrangements" are made which ensure that there will be no renewed threat of attacks across the northern border.

The original hope was that security could be guaranteed by the Lebanese army. After that illusion was shattered by the Druse and Shi'ite military successes earlier this year, Israel turned its attention to building up the local militia forces in the South, using an expansion of the late Major Saad Haddad's Israeli-backed militia as a core.

But that force, which Israel claims has been bolstered to 2,000 men, is unlikely ever to be capable of fully taking over the tasks performed today by some 15,000 highly trained and heavily armed

Israeli soldiers.

Worse still for the architects of the war is the fact that Syrian forces, which suffered some defeats at the hands of Israel during the fighting, have been strengthened by new equipment from the Soviet Union. The air battles which led to the destruction of the Syrian anti-aircraft missiles and the downing of 90 Syrian planes without loss on the Israeli side cannot be repeated with such ease.

The blow to Syria, which was supposed to weaken its influence in Lebanon, did not work. On the contrary Syria today is the dominant factor in the Lebanese equation. Its pressure led to the abrogation of the May 17 accord; its pressure will bring about the closure of the Israeli liaison office, the last vestige of Israel's political grand design.

Internally, the war has divided a nation which has drawn much of its strength in times of war from an internal consensus that Israel must win or be destroyed. Today, there are numerous groups which oppose the war. More than 100 sol-

diers have been imprisoned as conscientious objectors. Faith in the wisdom of the government's decision-making, which was shaken by the 1973 war, has been eroded even further.

The chances of an early Israeli withdrawal from Southern Lebanon are slim. Even if the opposition Labour Party wins the July election, it foresees a minimum of six months before the bulk of the forces can be pulled out and envisages a residual presence continuing for years after that.

Sucked into Lebanon by an illusion that it could create a new order in that country, Israel is now faced with a Catch-22. It cannot leave, and ensure "peace for Galilee," but the longer it stays, the more enemies it makes among the predominant Shi'ite Muslims of the South.

What Israel needs desperately right now is a clever man who can get it out of the situation that a wise man would never have got into the first place. — *The Financial Times*



U.S. policy on C. America: Delete as applicable

By Philip Geyelin

WASHINGTON — "I can't help people speculating," Secretary of State George Shultz replied the other day when he was asked about suspicions that his surprise trip to Nicaragua was a political ploy. He and President Reagan "thought there was the possibility of an opening; we suggested a meeting; they agreed."

Fair enough — and never mind that the meeting did have the effect of taking the words out of the mouths of those who think the Reagan administration's Central American approach is too heavy on military means and too light on serious negotiation. But there is something the secretary could do about "people speculating." He could sit down with President Reagan and the president's assistant for national security affairs, Robert McFarlane, and try to come up with some coherent, consistent statement of the objectives of U.S. policy.

I do not say that would bowl over congressional opposition or satisfy European concerns. It might not generate support or a more active role by the would-be peacemakers of the region, most notably the so-called Contadora group. Still less would it guarantee positive responses from the Sandinist government.

But if you accept that these are all useful purposes, it does follow that none of them can be achieved as long as the administration remains hung up in some inner conflict between ideals and reality and thus is incapable of saying from one day to the next what it wants.

By his own account, Mr. Shultz was "very clear" with the Sandinist leaders. He laid out "an agenda" calling first for "an end to subversion from one country to another." Second, the United States wants Central America to be free of East-West conflict, and "that means get Cuban troops and military-type people and the Soviets out of there."

Third, Mr. Shultz would somehow get the Nicaraguan armed forces "down to size." His fourth demand is for nothing less than a fundamental reform of the Nicaraguan political and social system: "We want to see progress toward pluralism and democracy," he said.

But if the Sandinists are as awful as the Reagan administration says they are, they would have to be removed before pluralism could flourish. So if that is really U.S. policy, there is not much more to talk about. If it is a bargaining chip, the contradictions in past pronouncements make it a chip hardly worth playing.

True, Mr. Reagan was saying back in March that the United States

would only stop its "covert" aid to the Nicaraguan rebels when the Sandinists "keep their promise and restore democratic rule." But when this upset congressional critics, the president wrote a letter to the Senate majority leader, Howard Baker of Tennessee, reassuring him that the United States was not trying to "destabilize or overthrow the government of Nicaragua," but only trying to get it to "cease to involve itself in the internal or external affairs of its neighbors."

In April, President Reagan was careful once again to say that "our interest in Nicaragua is one, and only one": to stop the Sandinists from exporting revolution. He said the United States would try to "inconvenience that government until they quit that kind of action."

But in his major Central American policy speech in May he was talking once again of U.S. support for the "democratic aspirations of the Nicaraguan people." And two days later he was quoted as telling a group of conservative leaders that "the cancer of communism" must be "excised" from Central America.

But the very next day Mr. McFarlane, the National Security Council adviser, was asked whether the administration was trying to overthrow the Nicaraguan government. "No, it isn't," he said. "The policy of the United States is

to try, together with the Contadora countries ... to come to terms with Nicaragua in a relationship in which we and they mind our own business." Got it? Two sentences later he added: "All we ask is that they stop exporting revolution and violence to their neighbors."

If a fuse blew at that point and you missed the rest of the sentence ("... and give the people who are looking for democracy in Nicaragua a chance") you would have saved yourself the confusion compounded by a subsequent exchange. Asked whether U.S. support of the Sandinists beyond the point of compromise, Mr. McFarlane spoke of the "simplicity of our terms." He added: "The United States has no territorial ambition. We have no particular interest in the outcome of the complex of that government — as long as it provides for pluralism."

So the United States wants to (a) remove (b) reform (c) restrain (d) "inconvenience" the Sandinist government — or (e) all of the above. Is it any wonder that some members of Congress take so dim a view of a program of ostensibly covert United States intervention in Nicaragua when its only remaining covert aspect is the purpose it seeks to achieve? — *The Washington Post*

S. Africa's offer viewed with distrust

By Thomas Thomson

JOHANNESBURG — South Africa's offer to withdraw from Namibia (South West Africa) if the U.S. takes over the territory is a surprising move which appears to conflict with the aim of Prime Minister P.W. Botha's European tour, political analysts say.

Mr. Botha said in West Berlin last week that South Africa had offered to leave Namibia if members of the five-nation contact group seeking a negotiated settlement for the territory took over its administration and defence.

But he said he did not expect the offer — which officials said coupled with Pretoria's original demand for the removal of Cuban troops from Angola — to be taken up.

Mischief-making

Another academic dealing with the Namibia question, who declined to be named, said the offer by Mr. Botha, who is attempting to boost South Africa's image in Western Europe, seemed almost like mischief-making.

"I would almost describe it as ludicrous and irresponsible," he added. The analysts said it was not clear what Mr. Botha hoped to achieve by making an offer that would not be taken up by the contact group members — the United States, Britain, France, West Germany and Canada.

South Africa has said recently it can no longer afford to run the vast, mineral-rich territory which it rules in defiance of United Nations resolutions.

It says it spends \$525 million a year on Namibia, plus a huge security bill.

The analysts said contact group governments would be reluctant to administer the territory primarily because their role was purely as mediators. The United Nations remained responsible for the territory.

The United States said that its position remained that U.N. resolution 435 remained the internationally accepted basis for a settlement of the Namibia dispute.

Under that resolution, a U.N. transition assistance group would lead the former German colony to independence.

The U.S. had led the contact group, but progress towards independence has been stalled by South Africa's insistence that withdrawal of an estimated 25,000 Cuban troops from neighbouring Angola must be tied to an accord.

Unworkable withdrawal

The analysts said South Africa's continued emphasis on this linkage would make the withdrawal offer unworkable in the eyes of the contact group.

They said Mr. Botha's offer in West Germany was unlikely to cause more than a short flurry in the continuing moves towards peace.

South Africa is currently completing the disengagement of its troops from southern Angola in what is seen as the first stage towards an independence settlement.

Some analysts said they did not foresee Namibian independence before 18 months at the earliest. Mr. Botha's offer to turn the territory over to the contact group could indicate that Pretoria saw a much longer transition period than the West hoped for, they added.

India — where grandeur mingles with splendour of nature

By George S. Hawatmeh
Special to the Jordan Times

THE EXHILARATING feeling of ever-present tranquility in the land, the breathtaking beauty of its various regions and the merging of the ancient with the modern in the sub-continent leave one awestruck, contrary to the reports of violence and agitation, that India is a land of peace.

A pre-arranged two-week trip into India is most likely to give a visitor a glimpse of that vast land, its diverse people and ancient civilisation. But, all the same, to see the country, where the past and the present mingle with the present, where it is only a matter of time, not boundaries, to be covered with the snows of Kashmir or to savor the heat of Goa, is a life experience that cannot be easily forgotten, nor overlooked.

India is not the sort of place that you could describe in words — not even books. You have to see for yourself, and actually live, the beautiful land which beholds attractions for every taste, to believe it. One man's experience, no matter how rich and valid, never can be a substitute for the real thing.

India either starts nor ends in Taj Mahal, as some people might think. Nor, for that matter, can seeing Delhi nor Bombay nor any other city or state be the ultimate sight in so diverse a country.

You may start a trip in Delhi, the capital, or Bombay, the commercial city of India, but it is going to be only your staging point where you land. Delhi has a population of seven million people, many of whom literally sit on top of each other, but the city, crowded as it may be, is both neat and grand and that can be easily noticed on a public holiday, like the "colourful" Holi which fell on March 16 this year.

Holi, in essence a boisterous festival, is celebrated throughout India at the height of springtime every year. It is an occasion, usually associated with harvesting, when all formality is discarded and all grownups — regardless of their position — take the form of children, daubing each other's faces with colours (powder colours or liquids, but all Indian-made), throwing buckets of water and dri-

pping *bhang*, a speciality of the day.

Delhi is an interesting city not only because it is the seat of the central government and because it is both an old and a modern city in one, but also because it has seen the rise and fall of many empires which have left behind them a plethora of monuments commemorating the grandeur and glory of the bygone ages.

The capital of India for 800 years, Delhi was originally founded around 1000 B.C. to be the Aryan capital; the Muslims came in the 11th century; then the Mughals (from Central Asia) in the 16th century; until the British conquered them in the 18th.

A visitor can discover the city on his own. But if time is short, the best way to see places of interest is through conducted tours which are easily available. Of these places the most interesting are the Qutab Minar (from the early Islamic period), the Red Fort (Mughal period), Jama Masjid (Mughal), Humayun's Tomb (Mughal), the bazaars in the old city, the Parliament House, India Gate, Rashtrapati Bhavan, Rajghat and Shantivana.

Qutab Minar is the famous 72-metre-high tower which dates back to the 13th century, being one of the greatest bequests of Islamic culture. At its foot lies a mosque which is thought to be built on the ruins of a Hindu temple. A very famous iron pillar of the fifth century stands before it; for 1,500 years its pure iron has remained without a trace of rust. According to local belief, your wishes will be granted if you can get your fingers to touch with your back to the pillar.

The Red Fort is undoubtedly Delhi's most magnificent monument. It was built by the Mughal emperor Shah Jahan, who also built Taj Mahal, in 1648. The fort's red sandstone walls and its inner structures wear their great age lightly. The fort encloses some buildings of great charm and tells a lot about the architecture and life of the enlightened Mughals. Here, at the fort, a sound and light show recreates every evening the history of the city has behind it.

Jama Masjid stands across the Red Fort as an eloquent reminder

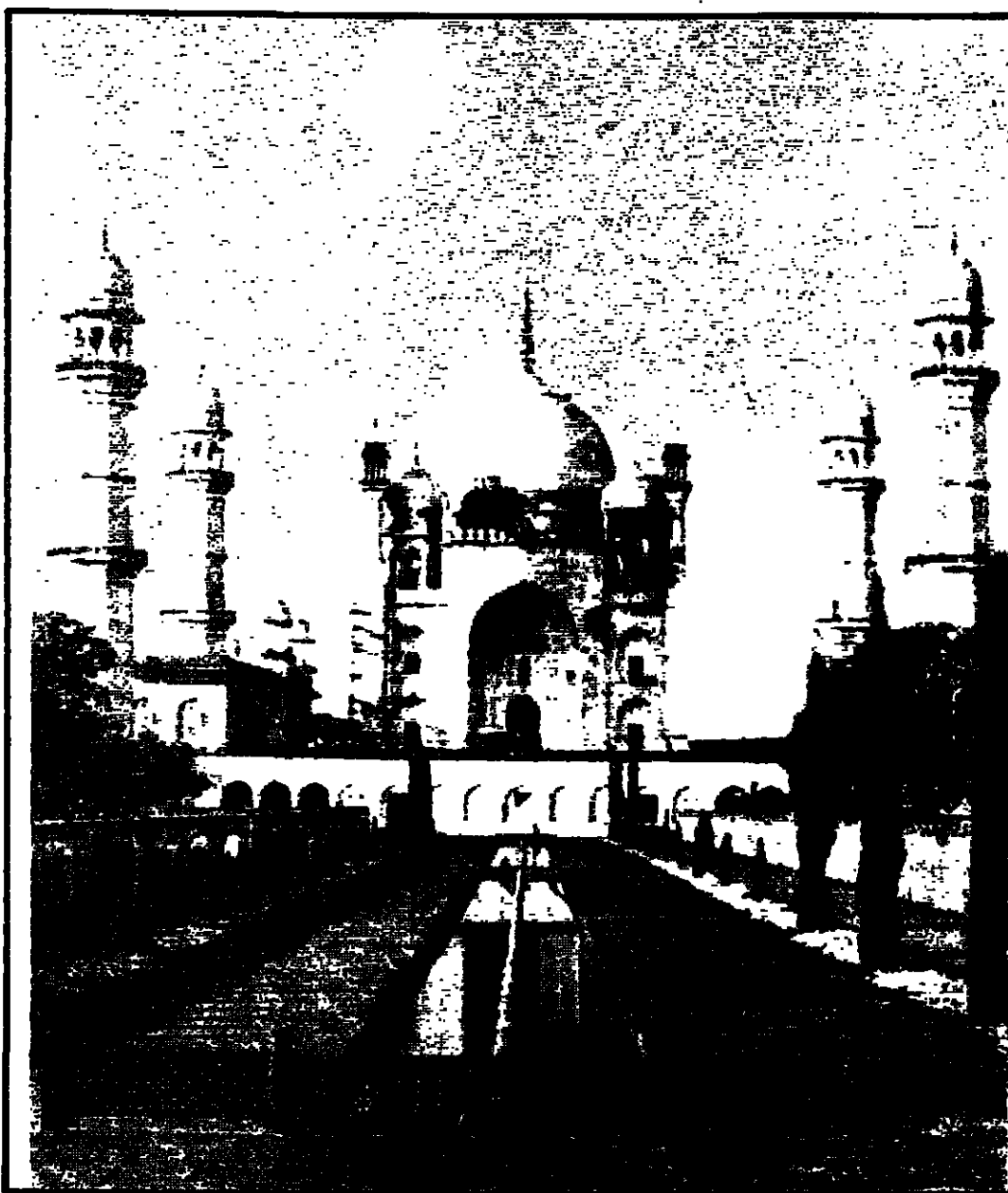
of the Mughals' religious fervour as Muslims. Built in 1656, it is the largest mosque in India and is thought to be one of the finest in the world. Its spacious courtyard can hold thousands of the faithful.

The 16th century Humayun's Tomb, architecturally the forerunner of the Taj Mahal, stands in the Nizamuddin area of Delhi, which has Mughal architecture at its best. Here a visitor also finds the tomb of Hasrat Nizamuddin, the 14th century Sufi saint, which stands amidst the tombs of the poets Amir Khusro and Ghalib.

The old bazaars, according to historians, date back more than 500 years, when they were set up by the Mughal emperors and their queens, in the narrow, cobbled lanes just outside the palace gates. One such, Chandi Chowk (Silver Street), is the heart of the old city. It still is a very busy commercial centre, and in its ancient narrow lanes is kept alive the traditional workmanship that makes Delhi famous.

The impressive arch, India Gate, is a memorial to the Indian and British soldiers killed in World War I. Beneath it burns an eternal flame. From the base of the gate, across the sweeping symmetry of the (British) Raj Path (avenue), a visitor can get a good view of the Rashtrapati Bhavan, the regal residence of the British viceroys, now the residence of the Indian president, the Central Secretariat, and the imposing Parliament House, circular in shape. The famed Mughal gardens, which are found in other cities as well, in the Rashtrapati Bhavan are open to the public only in February and March, but visitors may watch parliament in session after obtaining the necessary permit.

Rajghat and Shantivana are on the banks of the river Jamuna. Mahatma Gandhi, the Indian leader, was cremated at Rajghat and Jawaharlal Nehru, India's first prime minister after independence, at Shantivana. The Gandhi Museum near the Rajghat houses many belongings of Gandhi and photographs depicting his life story. The Nehru Museum, not far away, is a similar memorial to the revered national leader.



Taj Mahal — a dream in white where an emperor's love lies enshrined

Taj Mahal

Delhi, besides wearing the mellowed strength and elegance of the Mughal empire, is a basically clean and vivacious city, with multi-storied buildings, scenic bungalows, boulevards and fountains. But it is also India's tourism base; from there you can set off on a romantic voyage to the city of Agra, where an emperor's love for

his wife lies enshrined in the peerless Taj Mahal.

The journey could be made by air (light planes) or more commonly by car or train. Agra is 200 kilometres southeast of Delhi, and the trip should take little over three hours by car.

Once a magnificent Mughal capital, Agra is renowned not only for the Taj, but also for other historic monuments of beauty: the tomb of Akbar, the Great, at Sikandra, with its vaulted gateway and curious structural design; the mausoleum of Imdad-ul-Din, the massive Agra Fort; and the nearby Fatehpur Sikri, the abandoned city of red sandstone.

A visitor needs to stay overnight if he wants to see the lot, although many come down to Agra from Delhi for only one day just to see the Taj. But can anyone really have enough of one of the seven wonders in the world? A thousand times, for that matter?

A dream in white marble, delicately latticed and inlaid, perfectly proportioned and surrounded by a garden and a string of fountains, it takes to discover your own metaphor to describe the Taj Mahal and its beauty.

The monument took the Mughal emperor Shah Jahan 22 years to build, for his wife Mumtaz Mahal who gave him 14 children. Before she died, upon delivering the 14th child, the empress made her husband promise that he would build a tomb that would remind the world of their great love. And he did, completing the sensational marble building in 1653 A.D.

Seeing the Taj in daylight means to gaze in wonder at its beauty for as long as you look, but its sight in moonlight is a totally different, wonderful experience.

It hangs like a diamond in the sky, and all the more beautiful sight it would be if you were sighting it in full moonlight. Both Shah Jahan and his wife are buried there.

For the visitor who is staying overnight in Agra, the city has a range of hotels and rest houses that are adequate. But the thing to look then for would be the exquisite handwork of Agra's craftsmen. A special kind of marble inlay in the style of work at the Taj is done on cigarette and trinket boxes. There are carved teak figurines, ivory statues, marble carvings and semi-precious stone inlay which could not be matched anywhere in India, or perhaps in the whole world. A visitor interested in buying Agra handwork could have his order shipped to his country from there for an extra charge. Almost all payments could be made by internationally recognised credit cards.

Incidentally, if a visitor gets tired of riding cars when in Agra, his best way of getting around the city of two million people is the cycle-rickshaw. Its smooth gliding motion and leisurely rate of progress are in keeping with the pace in this old-world city.

Karnataka

Down south from Agra is the lush and green state of Karnataka to which Indians say they are associated historically and sentimentally.

A changing pageant of cultures, religions, life styles and customs has left its mark on this southern state over a period of 2,000 years, making it a fascinating blend of colours. All the endless landscape of craggy mountains, its rain-drenched forests, silvery rivers, sweeping plains and river banks,

as well as its historical monuments, and mid-weather make Karnataka very much worth visiting. The state's greatest tourists attraction, however, may be Mysore, the district and the city.

With its primeval forests and picturesque scenery, Mysore was the matrix of some of India's great empires. Mysore City, which stands by a beautiful rocky hill, is called the "Garden City" and is one of the cleanest cities in the whole of the country.

Mysore has great charm and individuality. For long the seat of an ancient ruling family that is renowned for its wealth and benevolence, it has a special aura of dynamic splendour. The lavish ways of the old maharajas find reflection in the numerous palaces, parks and boulevards of Mysore. Here, even ordinary public buildings have been built with ornate domes and vaulting archways. Among its many fine buildings, the main palace of the maharaja, which was built in the Indo-Saracenic style in the heart of the city, is most outstanding and indeed an architectural fantasy. The palace is now a museum for priceless exhibits like the golden peacock throne, the silver door and the king's chariot.

Spread out around Mysore are some of the more beautiful and historic spots in the state. Brindavan Garden, 19 kilometres away, is a landscaped symphony in flowers which is a must for visitors to see also in the evenings. Nearer the city is the island fortress of Srirangapatna from where Tippu Sultan, the Muslim emperor of the state during the second half of the 18th century, waged war, in alliance with the French, against the invading British; it was here, in 1799, that he was defeated and killed. Inside the fortress is the chapel of Abbe Dubois, the 19th-century traveller. Close to this fort is the Ranganathitirtha bird sanctuary.

The 13th century Kesava Temple at Somnathpur, 35 kilometres from Mysore, is one of the finest medieval temples in India. South from here lies the Bandipur wildlife sanctuary, once the private preserve of the Mysore maharaja. The game sanctuary is famous for its wild elephant, bison and spotted deer, and — occasionally — tigers as well.

One hundred and thirty-eight kilometres to the northeast of Mysore lies Bangalore, the modern capital city of Karnataka which is really the ideal base not only for discovery tours to Mysore but also to the whole of the state, and there are indeed many other places to see. Bangalore, known as the city of Gardens, was once a summer resort of the British Raj and Winston Churchill lived in it for two years when he served in India. The city's "flowery tradition" goes back to the days of Tippu Sultan who built the famous Lalbagh Gardens in its some 200 years ago. Its population is about three million.

Goa

Nestled into the crook of the Western Ghats, about 900 kilometres east of Bangalore, on the brow of the Arabian Sea, lies Goa, the "ancient pearl of the Orient".

The territory's western coastline, fringed with coconut palms and about 125 kilometres long, is a continuous stretch of bright sunny beaches. Its interior, crisscrossed by meandering rivers relieved by green and blue hills and mountains, offers a panorama of great scenic splendour — a veritable tourists paradise.

Goa is a district in the Indian Union Territory of Goa, Daman and Diu. It has a population of about 100,000 and occupies an area of 3,600 square kilometres.

Gifted with its natural beauty and with its long and chequered historical background, Goa offers a host of attractions for holiday-makers, but above all it is quiet and serene atmosphere.

At the very first glance, a visitor can see that Goa is different from any other place in India. As a result of Portuguese occupation of the territory for about 450 years, Latin flavour is found in Goa, a hint of the Mediterranean, if you like.

The Latin rhythm finds expression not only in the landscape and architecture but in the life of Goans too: in the pulsating music of the guitar, in the fiestas and carnivals, and in the songs and dances and laughter. Goa is indeed a gentle, happy place — a harmonious blend of peoples, cultures and life styles.

Shortly after it became part of the Indian Union, Goa was discovered by the hippies; but they're rare birds now — they've been chased away to remoter beaches by more aggressive visitors. Goans say.

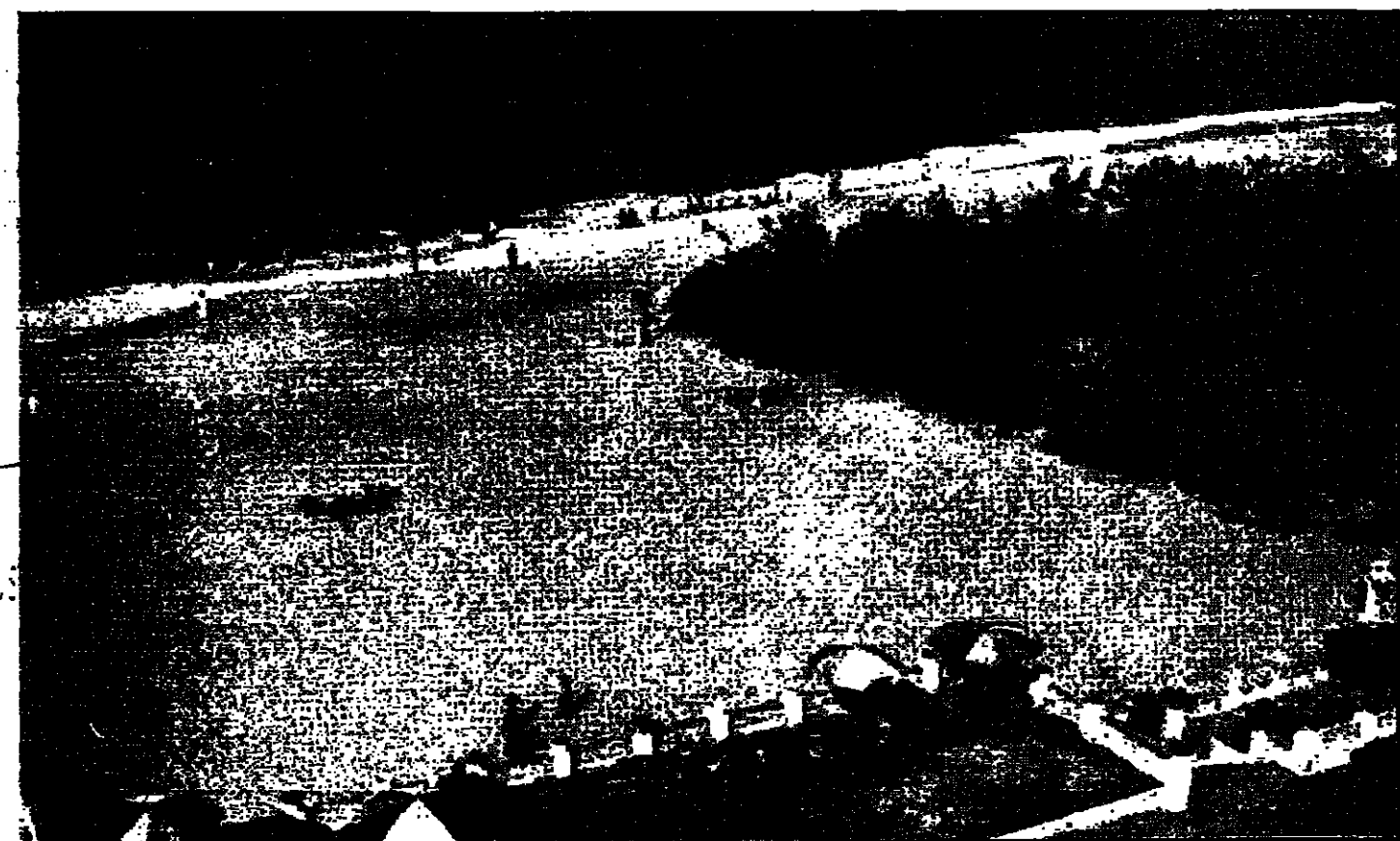
Goa's beaches are still the best known in India and there are a variety of them, each served by its own hotels. Available accommodation spans a range from the Taj's Fort Aguada Beach Resort where the Commonwealth heads of governments retreated during their conference last November, to family-run establishments where the service is friendly, the food home-cooked and the formalities minimal.

Apart from the beaches, there are the wonder of the churches and convents of old Goa: the naturally — or miraculously — preserved body of St. Francis Xavier in the Cathedral of Bom Jesus, the golden chimes of the Se Cathedral, the delicate blue tiles of the Royal Chapel, and overall, the contemplative peace typical of the worship places of the Roman Catholic faith. But there are also Hindu temples worth a visitor's time, one of the most-well-known being the Mangesh Temple which, reportedly, has the cleanest dharmasala (asylums for travellers) in India. Its soaring tower can be seen from a great distance, rising above Goa's red earth and lush green fields. Things to do in Goa include a visit to the morning fish market where brightly-dressed fishermen, in their knee-high saris, haggle leisurely; a drink of feni, their gin-like distillation, in a taverna; feni is normally accompanied by snacks of spiced Goa sausage, fish curry or dried and fried fish; a dance at a local church festival, if you can dance as well as the Goans can, and if you're accepted by the locals; and a ride on the pillion of one of the devil-may-care Easy Riders who offer a motorbike taxi service and throw in the thrill for free.

The great outdoors in Goa include angling in Mandovi and Zuari rivers. Also contact Goa Tours for a range of unusual tours including a sailboat tour, a scuba diving tour and a welcome to a Goan home tour. Goa still offers the widest options in holiday interests and packages available in India today.

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Belgium, Yugoslavia voyage into unknown

LENS, France (R) — A voyage into the unknown is in prospect for both Belgium and Yugoslavia when they meet here Wednesday night in Group One of the European Soccer Championship finals.

Belgium's cigar-smoking manager Guy Thys has been forced to create an entirely new defence following the Standard Liege bribes scandal in February which robbed him of five key players.

For his part, Yugoslavia's Todor Veselinovic has experienced with no fewer than 53 players since taking over the national squad after their disappointing showing in the 1982 World Cup finals in Spain.

To add to Thys's troubles, he learned only a few days ago that he would be without one of his last remaining experienced defenders, Michel Renquin, who is required by his Swiss club Servette Geneva.

It all means that with the notable exception of Jean-Marie Pfaff of Bayern Munich, one of Europe's best and most seasoned goalkeepers, Belgium will field a

defence that contributed little to the team's impressive run through the qualifying round.

Under the circumstances Thys may decide his best tactic is to concentrate on attack where he is expected to field promising newcomers Nico Claesen, top scorer in the Belgian League this year.

His strikers could also benefit from the presence of 18-year-old Enzo Scifo, the son of Italian immigrants who was granted Belgian citizenship just in time for the finals. An attacking midfielder, Scifo is one of Europe's most highly rated young players.

But Thys has hinted that he does not expect his recast side to emulate their success at the last European finals in Italy four years ago when they finished runners-up to West Germany. "We'll be trying to go as far as possible to get

past the first round. However we're preparing for the future, and are already looking towards the 1986 World Cup."

Yugoslav manager Veselinovic took his squad from their base at le Touquet near Paris to the Lens stadium Monday night to prepare them for the big-match atmosphere.

Yugoslav hopes of exploiting any weaknesses in the Belgian defence rest mainly on striker Safet Susic of Paris Saint-Germain, their most skilful and experienced forward who scored the goal that beat Spain in a warm-up friendly five days ago.

The Yugoslavs went on to beat Portugal, also European finalists, in Lisbon, an indication that Veselinovic's experiments may produce some impressive results over the next two weeks. Certainly Denmark regard Yugoslavia, rather than Belgium, as the main threat to their chances of reaching the semifinals with France from Group One.

Veselinovic was giving no clues to his selection Tuesday, but before leaving Belgrade he said his squad was "the best that Yugoslav soccer can produce at the moment... we're afraid of nobody."

Souness signs for Sampdoria

GENOA, Italy (R) — Graeme Souness, captain of European Soccer Cup holders Liverpool, signed a three-year contract with Italian first division club Sampdoria Monday, the Italian news agency ANSA said.

Souness, greeted by about

2,000 Sampdoria fans on his arrival from London, met club President Paolo Montovani for three hours.

Montovani and Souness refused to disclose the details of the player's contract.

"It was the most difficult choice of my career," ANSA quoted Souness as saying afterwards. "It will be difficult to leave Britain but I accept the challenge."

"Who knows what will happen in Liverpool when the fans hear the news tonight. I know I'm leaving one of the best clubs in Europe, but I have a great desire to improve."

Gross heads German swimmers

MUNICH, West Germany (R) — Michael Gross, who broke his own world 200 metres freestyle record on Friday, heads the 27-strong list of West German swimmers proposed Monday night for the 1984 Olympic Games beginning in Los Angeles next month.

The West German Swimming Federation said it had nominated Gross for the 200 metres freestyle and the 100 and 200 metres butterfly events.

At the National Swimming Championships over the weekend, Gross not only set a world mark of one minute 47.55 seconds over the freestyle distance, but also lowered the European record for the 100 metres butterfly to 53.78 seconds. He set a 50 metres European record of 24.8 seconds en route.

Gross rounded off his performance by recording 1:57.49 in the 200 metres butterfly, the fastest time in the world this year. The National Olympic Committee have still to approve the nominations.

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U.S. boxing champion Henry Milligan lands a punch during recent heavyweight boxing competition. The young athlete, determined to represent the United States at the 1984 Summer Olympics in Los Angeles, California, has already achieved high international ranking in the sport.

Amateur boxing champion chases Olympic dream

By David P. Colley

PRINCETON — Henry Milligan, a graduate of prestigious Princeton University in New Jersey, recently quit a \$25,000-a-year engineering job to become a full-time heavyweight boxer chasing an Olympic dream. He has already represented the United States at boxing competitions in Norway, Sweden, and Yugoslavia. If he earns a spot on the American team for the 1984 Olympics scheduled for Los Angeles, July 28 to August 14, he will probably turn professional and try to make some money at his new trade.

Milligan stepped into a boxing ring until the fall of 1981, but by mid-1983 he had fought his way high into the amateur heavyweight rankings. Number two in the United States and number seven in the world, he has a record of 25 knockouts.

Milligan offers a frank explanation for his unusual choice of profession. "All my life people have asked me what I wanted to be. I've always wanted to be famous. I chose boxing. I figured I'd be pretty good at it and I'd make a name for myself."

He quit a civil engineering job last year because it conflicted with his training schedule and has since been living with his parents in Delaware. The money he managed to save during 18 months of employment is dwindling, so he

will soon need to find a part-time job.

Boxing, however, is not the only sport at which Milligan has excelled. He was honoured as Princeton University's outstanding male scholar-athlete in 1981. He won a total of 10 varsity letters in baseball, football, and wrestling, and as a senior he was named an all-American wrestler and was ranked seventh nationally in the heavyweight division.

In 1981, he turned down an offer from the Boston Red Sox professional baseball team. In baseball he'd have had to share the limelight with other players. So he made the decision to take up boxing. Like wrestling, it is a one-on-one sport, the kind he prefers, and with his athletic ability he knew he would do well.

Milligan is a fierce competitor in his own right. "Inside and outside the ring, I'm two different people. Outside, I'm very low-key, never been in a fight before. Inside, I'll

try to tear your head off." He soon found that he was smart and fast.

His training programme like the sport, is quick and explosive. He runs short distances, no more than 4.8 kilometres a day, and spars at the Wilmington, Delaware, gym. He also makes weightlifting an integral part of his programme which he believes gives him added strength, helping him to compete against bigger opponents.

Milligan, who began his Olympic quest several months ago, placed first at the U.S. Amateur Boxing Federation's national championships and will go to the Olympic Trials this June in Fort Worth, Texas. He feels he has a good chance of winning the Olympic Trials.

And if Milligan achieves his dream of representing the United States in the heavyweight division at the 1984 Summer Olympics, he may get all the attention he wants — Princeton Alumni Weekly.

FISA criticises Monaco race stoppage

PARIS (R) — The International Motor Sport Federation (FISA) has criticised Monaco Grand Prix organisers, saying its officials had not been consulted on the stoppage of last week's rain-hit race.

FISA said in a communique that race director Jacky Ickx, a former Grand Prix driver, had decided

alone to stop the race on the 32nd of the 78 laps, and did not consult with FISA officials who were present.

FISA said they would deal with the case when its executive committee meets in Paris late next month.

The race was stopped with World Championship leader Alain Prost of France in front. Because less than 75 per cent of the race was finished only half championship points were awarded.

Pringle warms up for test

LONDON (AP) — England all-rounder Derek Pringle warmed up for this week's first test at Edgbaston with a high-powered stint Tuesday that earned county champions Essex a 35-run victory over Warwickshire at Ilford.

In 37 deliveries, Pringle removed Geoff Humpage, Anton Ferreira, Gladstone Small and Norman Gifford for only 13 runs and left Warwickshire still seeking their first victory of the season. At Worcester, Trevor Jesty completed centuries in both innings for the first time but Hampshire still lost. He hit 141 and

Seeds tumble in London tennis

LONDON (R) — Four seeds, including last year's beaten Wimbledon finalist Chris Lewis of New Zealand, crashed out of the Queen's Club Grand Prix Tennis Tournament in first-round matches here Monday.

Holder Jimmy Connors, seeded third behind Wimbledon champion and fellow-American John McEnroe, and French Open Champion Ivan Lendl of Czechoslovakia were not in action on the grass courts.

But their path to the tournament's final stages have been smoothed by the early upsets.

Eighth-seeded Lewis, 27, fell victim to teenage qualifier Guy Forget of France 7-6, 7-5, while talented Swedish youngster Stefan Edberg, the ninth seed, went out to the equally stylish Indian Ramesh Krishnan 6-7, 7-6, 6-3.

American Bill Scanlon, seeded sixth, was beaten for the second successive week in the first round of a British tournament, after losing in Manchester last week where he was top seed. Monday he succumbed to unseeded South African Danie Visser 6-3, 6-4.

The last seed of the day to bow out was the number 14, former finalist Brian Gottfried, also of the U.S., beaten by Australian Davis Cup player Paul McNamee 4-6, 6-1, 6-1.

Italian club negotiate for Brazil's Junior

ROME (R) — Italian first division club Torino confirmed Tuesday that are negotiating to buy Junior from Brazilian club Flamengo.

Junior, a member of Brazil's 1982 World Cup team, said on Brazilian television Monday that he had agreed terms with a top Italian club, but had promised not to name the club until details of the contract had been settled.

A Torino spokeswoman said there could be an announcement shortly.

The Italian sports daily Gazzetta dello Sport said Tuesday the main outstanding issue was whether Torino or Flamengo should pay Junior a sum of around 300 million lira (\$180,000), equivalent to 15 per cent of the value of the deal.

Budd makes debut for England

BIRMINGHAM, England (R) — South African-born Zola Budd makes her debut for England in an athletics international against Wales, Scotland and Yugoslavia here later this month.

Budd, granted British citizenship in April, booked her place in the British team for the Los Angeles games last week when she won the 3,000 metres Olympic trial.

Budd, 18, will race over 1,500 metres in the match on June 23.

ANSALDO SOCIETA GENERALE ELETTROMECCANICA S.P.A. JORDAN BRANCH BALANCE SHEET AS AT 31ST DECEMBER 1983			
ASSETS		JD FILS	JD FILS
CURRENT ASSETS			
Cash in hand		4078 616	
Cash at Grindlays Bank (Note 4)		9798 701	
Deposits (Note 3)		1015 000	
Jordan Electricity Authority		785700 289	
Ansaldo Iraq		11862 915	
Accounts receivable		1741 200	814196 701
LESS CURRENT LIABILITIES			
Accrued audit fees			600 000
NET CURRENT ASSETS		813596 701	
FIXED ASSETS			
Furniture		200 000	
		813796 701	
REPRESENTED BY: HEAD OFFICE FUND			
Registered Capital in Jordan			10000 000
Ansaldo Genoa - Italy		2575418 005	
Less: accumulated losses (Note 5)		1771621 304	803796 701
			813796 701
The attached Notes to the Financial Statements form an integral part of these statements			
RESIDENT SITE MANAGER		BAWAB & CO. Amman	
		Amman, 17th April, 1984	

TO LET

Furnished apartment at Jabel Amman 3rd Circle composed of three bedrooms, salon, living/dining room, balcony and appertinances fully furnished with central heating and a part of a garden.

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A first floor apartment with central heating, telephone, containing two bedrooms, two bathrooms, sitting room, dining room and veranda, with private entrance, garage and garden, furnished JD 3,500 per annum, unfurnished JD 2,700 per annum. Location: Shmeisani, Abed Al Haleim Al-Nemr Street, house number 5306, West Bilal Mosque.

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DELUXE VILLA FOR SALE (Furnished or without furniture)

Consisting of eight bedrooms, four spacious salons, sitting rooms in addition to a large guest room, three verandas, two kitchens, and another for service on the third floor, with five bathrooms, two of which for guests, central heating and airconditioning, electric lift, telephone, made up of three floors; the third floor and the penthouse in the final stage of finishing, suitable for residence or embassy.

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Newly-built and newly furnished apartment seeks occupants to sleep in two spacious bedrooms, dine in romantic-style dining room, sit comfortably in a cosy living room, cook delicacies in fully equipped kitchen, wash-away life troubles in two never-used bath rooms, park safely in a secure garage, and enjoy evenings on a two lovely verandas.

If you qualified for the occupancy and tuff negotiator to reduce the monthly rent which is JD 340, and you like the location which is behind Um Uthaina Hotel, then please call: Emile Bosheh, tel. 672321 from: 8:00 a.m. - 8:00 p.m.

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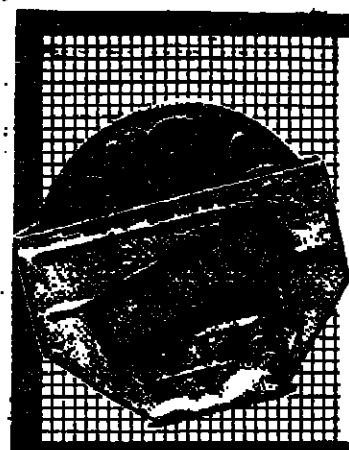
Performances: 12-3 - 5:30-8

Performances: 12-3 - 5:30-8

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A villa consisting of two floors and a basement, the first floor comprising: Three salons, one bedroom, terrace, spacious kitchen, one bathroom, washing room and maid's quarters. The second floor consists of: Four bedrooms, three bathrooms, one sitting room, kitchenette and terrace. The villa is luxuriously decorated from the inside, and has a garage, garden and central heating.

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AN OFFICER AND
A GENTLEMAN

Colour
American

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p.m. Additional performances:
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p.m. Car park available.

Cinema
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REVENGE OF
THE BRAVE
ONES
(Colour)
"Indian Film"

Performances: 12-3 - 5:30-8

Cinema
RAINBOW
Tel: 25155

CLOSED FOR
REDECORATION

Cinema
ZAHARAN
Tel: 23171

THE REAL
ESTATE OWNER
(Colour)
"Italian Film"

Performances: 12-3 - 5:30-8

Cinema
BASMAN
Tel: 30126

SATI BI SATI
(Colour)
"Indian Film"

Performances: 12-3 - 5:30-8

Cinema
PALESTINE
Tel: 22117

1- KARTHAVYA
(Indian)
2- ROXY THE
OBSTINATE
(American)
in Colour

Performances: 12-3-7

Cinema
RAGHADAN
Tel: 22198

HELL TRAIN
(Colour)

Performances: 12-3-5:30-8

About 50 die as Indian army cracks down on rebel Sikhs

NEW DELHI (R) — Thirteen rebel soldiers were reported killed and 33 seriously wounded Tuesday in an army crackdown on Sikh unrest within its ranks, bringing the death toll in sporadic clashes to about 50.

The Press Trust of India (PTI) said the rebels died when a group of Sikh soldiers revolting over an army assault last week on the Sikhs' Golden Temple at Amritsar fought a pitched gunbattle with security forces at a village in Western Gujarat state. No other details were immediately available.

The news agency said an army deserter was also killed and 34 others surrendered after another clash at a village near Agra in the northern state of Uttar Pradesh Monday night.

Informed army sources said military courts of inquiry were being set up in preparation for court martial proceedings against the rebellious troops. They said several hundred arrests had been

made.

The government has denied that mutinies have taken place, but there have been reports of clashes between deserters and loyal forces in several states including Uttar Pradesh, Maharashtra, Gujarat, Bihar and Rajasthan.

An Indian newspaper reporter who saw a clash Monday in Rajasthan state said five rebels were killed and two wounded when they tried to break through a military roadblock in a stolen army truck.

At least 29 soldiers and civilians were reported killed Monday as rebel troops and Sikh extremists clashed with security forces alerted by the government. The rebellious troops have in most cases tried to

force their way at gunpoint to Amritsar.

PTI said two senior Sikh opposition leaders of the Akali Dal, the main Sikh political party which has spearheaded a campaign for religious and political concessions for the past two years, were arrested Tuesday in the government's latest roundup of suspected troublemakers.

It quoted official sources as saying most of the "misguided army personnel" had either returned to camp or been arrested. The remainder would be apprehended soon, it added.

Military sources said security at all major airports had been tightened against possible hijack attempts by disgruntled Sikhs to highlight their resentment against the Golden Temple attack.

Informed police sources have said more than 700 Sikhs and 90 soldiers were killed in the temple attack to flush out Sikh extremists blamed by the government for

Hindu-Sikh violence over the past six months.

Indian newspapers said that, to head off the danger of more mutinies, the army had sent senior Sikh officers to explain to Sikh troops in the field the circumstances behind the assault.

The All India Radio said no officers were involved in the army revolts. Sikhs comprise about one-tenth of India's one-million-strong army.

Times of India Editor Girilal Jain said in a commentary on the mutinies that it was possible authorities were aware of the threat but took no steps to disarm soldiers "in the calculation that it was better to risk trouble in a few units than provoke resentment among a large section of the armed forces."

A Defence Ministry spokesman earlier described the revolts as "stray incidents" and said normalcy would be restored in the army soon.



Sikhs carrying swords are confronted by British policemen during their protest march in London on Sunday. The Sikhs marched to the Indian embassy

in London in a demonstration against actions in Amritsar recently, when troops clashed with Sikhs around the Golden Temple (AP wirephoto)

Nicaragua may postpone November 4 elections

MANAGUA, Nicaragua (AP) — The Sandinista junta will postpone general elections scheduled for Nov. 4 because of attacks by U.S.-supported rebels and opposition threats to boycott the election, according to a government source.

The elections will be set back from Nov. 4 until early January, said the source, who spoke Monday on condition he not be identified by name.

The Council of State, an appointed advisory body that acts as a legislature, will first have to amend the electoral law to change the date but a formal announcement of the postponement is expected this week, the source said.

A source at the supreme electoral council, which supervises

balloting and counts the vote, confirmed the report, but said the three-man junta still has to give final approval.

The elections are for president, vice president and a 90-member legislature.

Several opposition leaders are threatening not to field candidates and to urge their supporters not to vote unless the government lifts a state of national emergency that has been in effect for two years. The government has said the emergency decree was made necessary by the rebel attacks.

Sandinista leaders have hinted that they may hold a referendum, so people can vote "yes" or "no" on whether elections should be held.

Chinese party mourns death of Berlinguer

PEKING (R) — The Chinese Communist Party has sent a message of sympathy to the Italian Communist Party on the death of its leader Enrico Berlinguer, mourning him as a close friend, the New China News Agency said Tuesday.

It paid tribute to Mr. Berlinguer, who died Monday aged 62, as an outstanding party leader, a distinguished activist in the international workers' movement, a staunch fighter for world peace and a close friend of the Chinese Party and people.

"Comrade Berlinguer devoted all his life to the Italian people's glorious cause of democracy, freedom and socialism. He worked hard to integrate the universal truth of Marxism with the concrete practice in Italy," the Chinese party's Central Committee said.

The message praised Mr. Berlinguer, a Eurocommunist whose party broke decisively with Moscow two years ago, for his efforts to foster good relations between the parties and people of Italy and China.

It was during Mr. Berlinguer's visit to Peking in April 1980 that the Italian party restored official ties with China, the first Eurocommunist grouping to do so.

Party seeks new leader

Meanwhile Italy's Communist Party, the biggest in Western Europe, faces an uncertain future following the death of Mr. Berlinguer.

The death of Mr. Berlinguer caught the party completely unprepared and without any obvious successor to the leadership.

The Communists find themselves without a leader less than a week before elections to the European Parliament.

Officials said, however, it was unlikely a successor would be named before the poll. The 146-member Central Committee will have to be convened to elect a new secretary.

Political commentators say the party has a wide range of experienced leaders but many of them are approaching or past 60.

Among names being mentioned are Alfredo Reichlin, 59, who once guided the party organ L'Unita, the former mayor of Bologna Renato Zangheri, also 59, and Nildo Jotti, 64, speaker of the Chamber of Deputies.

Pope appeals for Christian unity at start of Swiss visit

ZURICH (R) — Pope John Paul appealed for greater Christian unity Tuesday when he arrived in a city which helped lead the Protestant breakaway from Rome four centuries ago.

At the start of a six-day visit to Switzerland, he said the challenges of the modern world obliged Christians to make greater efforts to overcome the obstacles which separated them.

"I am happy at the meetings which I shall have with our separated brothers and sisters of religion. May God grant that these will deepen our mutual understanding, and strengthen and further develop our common witness of faith," he said.

Speaking in German, French, Italian and Romansh — the four languages of Switzerland — he said the "unfortunate splits and

Moscow calls for space weapons talks

MOSCOW (R) — Soviet President Konstantin Chernenko has urged the United States to begin immediate talks on a space weapons ban but has had a cool response from Washington.

In a written reply to questions from a U.S. journalist, Mr. Chernenko said they should start discussions before any space weapons were deployed and should aim for a total prohibition of anti-satellite weapons or orbiting arms systems.

"We propose to the United States to embark without delay on official talks with a view to achieving agreement to this effect," he added.

The Soviet leader said they should not delay negotiations. He firmly contradicted President Reagan's assertions that such an accord would be difficult to police.

In Washington, White House officials said Mr. Chernenko's appeal contained nothing new and spokesman Larry Speakes sug-

gested it was intended to divert attention from Moscow's walkout from negotiations on nuclear arms controls.

The Soviet Union has repeatedly urged a space weapons ban since President Reagan announced plans for a "star wars" defence system which would shoot down incoming missiles with laser guns.

Soviet scientists have indicated Moscow would have difficulty keeping pace with such technology. Western diplomats believe the Kremlin fears Washington would gain an insuperable strategic superiority.

But Mr. Reagan has said he sees no point in talks on a space weapons ban, as such an accord would be hard to verify. Mr. Chernenko rejected this view, saying verification was not only possible but would be highly reliable.

He said present tracking stations and electronic eav-

esdropping networks could check for breaches of an accord, with consultations in case of doubt.

The Soviet leader said those who tried to rule out talks by saying verification was impossible were in fact trying to "keep their hands free to pursue a course of militarising space in the hope of gaining military advantages."

Mr. Chernenko's replies to questions from journalist Joseph Kingsbury-Smith were published by the Soviet News Agency TASS.

Mr. Speakes said the "door" was not closed" on anti-satellite control measures, but he accused the Soviet Union of trying to seek a monopoly in anti-satellite systems, which the U.S. says Moscow developed in the 1960's.

The Kremlin last year announced a moratorium on tests or deployments of anti-satellite and space weapons. Mr. Chernenko says this will remain in force unless the U.S. carries out new tests.

U.S., Chinese defence ministers open arms talks

WASHINGTON (R) — American Defence Secretary Casper Weinberger and Chinese Defence Minister Zhang Aiping Monday discussed modernisation of China's artillery and anti-armour weapons, but officials said no agreement had yet been reached.

U.S. Spokesman Michael Burch said the defence chief had not reached agreement on arms sales or the transfer of technology for co-production of weapons. But other officials said there could be an agreement before the Chinese minister leaves Washington on Wednesday, or soon after.

Mr. Weinberger, told an American Stock Exchange meeting after his morning and luncheon talks with Mr. Zhang that they "were very useful discussions in every way."

At a briefing, Mr. Burch added that the talks went "extremely well". He said: "There was agreement on a number of important matters we hope will improve the defensive capabilities of both sides."

He did not specify the advantages to the United States, but officials noted that in Peking last year Mr. Weinberger had sought to interest China into aligning with the United States against any expansionism by the Soviet Union.

Mr. Burch said Monday's discussions centred around new anti-air armament and two anti-armour missiles.

He said there was no discussion yet of China's air defence needs, but other officials said that earlier talks had covered the sale of Hawk missiles.

GOREN BRIDGE

BY CHARLES GOREN
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LIVING UP TO HIS NAME

Both vulnerable. North deals.

NORTH
♠ Q3
♥ AK7
♦ AJ642
♣ Q65

WEST
♠ 10985
♥ QJ105
♦ K108
♣ 94

EAST
♠ A7642
♥ 8
♦ Q95
♣ 8732

SOUTH
♠ KJ
♥ 96432
♦ 73
♣ AKJ10

The bidding:
North East South West
1 NT Pass 3 NT Pass
4 NT Pass Pass Pass
Opening lead: Ten of ♠.

Tommy's day was made — he had been invited to play for his club in a team match against the local country club. His joy was not tempered by the fact that he was a last-minute replacement, and then only because the other members of the team felt that it would be inappropriate to have the club captain's seven-year-old daughter fill in.

As we all know, Tommy was a hacker except in one case: when trumps broke badly he became Bob Hamman and Benito Garozzo rolled into one! Soon this hand came along.

The bidding was the same

at both tables. North's opening no trump was standard and South, with his unbalanced hand, correctly looked for game in hearts rather than no trump. With a ruffing value and three good trumps, North wisely chose the suit contract.

At both tables the lead was the ten of spades. Both Easts won the ace and returned a spade. The opposition declarer won the spade and cashed ace-king of hearts, and he now could not avoid losing two heart tricks and a diamond for down one.

Fortunately, Tommy was in his element. He knew the hand was cold unless trumps broke 4-1 — not even he could handle a 5-0 break. There was nothing he could do if East held four trumps, but if West held four trumps and East's singleton was the eight, the contract could still be made.

At trick three Tommy led the nine of trumps! West did the best he could by covering with the ten. When dummy's king fetched the eight, it was all over. Tommy returned to his hand with a club and led a trump toward the A-7. West played the jack, the table's ace won and the seven of trumps forced out the queen. No return could harm Tommy, and he still had a club entry to his hand to use his six of trumps to draw West's five!

By David Nagy
Reuter

WASHINGTON — With the primary elections now over, Walter Mondale, a party pro who built his political career by block, is within striking distance of his long-time goal — the presidency of the United States.

The 56-year-old former vice president is confident he will win the Democratic Party's nomination at next month's convention to choose a candidate to run against President Reagan.

His major rival, Colorado Senator Gary Hart, has vowed to take his campaign to the floor of the San Francisco convention. But Mr. Mondale claims he has more than the 1,967 delegates needed to ensure that he will face Mr. Reagan in November.

Hard work, good luck and powerful connections have been behind Mr. Mondale's rise and he will owe the success or failure of his quest for the presidency, in large measure, to the fact that he is a politician and proud of it.

Party strength was his trump card in the primaries, which ended on June 5. A vast network of elected officials, party chiefs, labour leaders and financial donors loiled for "fritz" Mondale of Minnesota, the liberal champion of organised labour and other interest groups.

That network will not desert him now.

But this master-politician's image has also hurt him and could be red meat for Mr. Reagan in a general election.

Rivals led by Sen. Hart have painted Mr. Mondale as a today to special interests and a tomorrow "old pol," linked as vice president to Jimmy Carter and the election defeat of 1980.

Mr. Mondale brushes off such attacks, although they hurt him in California and other primary states won by Sen. Hart.

"Since when is it a special interest of Democrats to stand for labour?" he shouted at one party meeting in a baritone bellow built up through years of campaigning across the land.

"I am for organised labour. Since when is it a special interest to stand for civil rights? I'm for civil rights."

Whatever the drawbacks, the reward is a majority of convention delegates — many of them won at party meetings dominated by his allies rather than in popular-vote primaries.

The Carter connection has been handled more gingerly, with Mr. Mondale paying just enough heed to the unpopular ex-president to show respect while also disclaiming responsibility for such controversial moves as the 1979

anti-Soviet grain embargo.

The Carter link helped him win Georgia's primary last March when he desperately needed comeback victories over Sen. Hart.

Mr. Mondale, who is married with three grown children, began building his political contacts some 35 years ago as a student in Minnesota, a farming and mining state with a tradition of liberal, populist politics and many solid, hard-working Scandinavian-American residents like the Norwegian Mondales.

Much influenced by the "new deal" liberalism of President Franklin D. Roosevelt in the 1930s, he worked in the late 1940s and 1950s campaigns that made Hubert Humphrey mayor of Minneapolis and later a U.S. senator, Orville Freeman governor of Minnesota and Harry Truman President with Minnesota backing.

The links with Mr. Freeman and with Mr. Humphrey, who became the foremost voice of liberalism in Congress and vice president under Lyndon Johnson, launched Mr. Mondale's political career.

Mr. Freeman gave him his political base by appointing him the state's chief law officer in 1960.

Another governor appointed Mr. Mondale to Mr. Humphrey's vacant senate seat when Mr. Humphrey became Mr. Johnson's

last Friday on some of the 63 charges alleging that they made \$130 million in phony tax avoidance schemes for such celebrities as television producer Norman Lear and Actor Sidney Poitier.

But the 12-member federal court jury told Judge Richard Owen Monday it could not reach a verdict on the remaining charges or on any of the charges against a fifth defendant, Frank Susti.

Judge Owen then declared a mistrial on the remaining charges and the accusations against Mr. Susti. He allowed Friday's convictions to stand as they were entered into the record.

But Defence Lawyer Jan Handzlik said a mistrial should be declared on all the verdicts because, he said, it was clear that one of the 12 jurors was not in agreement with the guilty verdicts reached on Friday evening.

He referred to a note which the jury sent Judge Owen Monday that said: "To whom it may concern: A juror feels she was pressured into changing her conviction because she was outnumbered."

The two sentinel companies arranged tax shelter schemes for rich celebrity clients.

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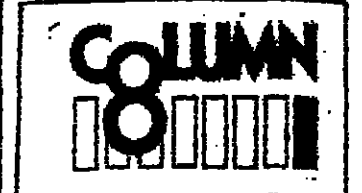
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Prince William speaks

LONDON (AP) — Britain's Prince William, who will be 2-years-old next week, held a press conference of sorts Tuesday and said his first words in public. He also uttered two sentences: "What's that?" and "who's that?" Because of his birthday June 21, Prince Charles and Princess Diana showed off their son for photographers and camera crews on the grounds of Kensington Palace, their London home. Second in line to the throne, William, who merely cooed and gurgled when he last appeared for the media six months ago, has grown a couple of centimetres to top just under a metre and has mastered the words "daddy", "ball", "ant", and "tractor". Prince Charles pushed him on a swing and Princess Diana, who is expecting the couple's second child in September, joined in the fun by kicking a ball to William. "Who's that?" asked his royal highness, staring at photographers. Then he pointed to a piece of equipment and asked: "What's that?" "That's called a microphone," his father explained. "It's a big sausage that picks up everything you say — and you are starting early."

Soldiers killed while posing for photos

PEKING (R) — A Chinese news paper Tuesday printed a snapshot of three smiling soldiers posing on a railway track, their backs to a speeding train which killed them a split-second later. The newspaper, China Law, said the train driver blasted his whistle and locked on the emergency brakes but could not stop in time. The report did not say why the photographer, a fellow soldier who presumably jumped clear in time, failed to warn them of the approaching danger.

American plans global flight without refuelling

WASHINGTON (R) — A California aircraft maker plans to try to fly non-stop round the world next year without refuelling, using a plane that is a virtual flying petrol tank. Dick Rutan, 45, whose Rutan Aircraft Factory built the twin-engine voyage aircraft, said Monday the plane would take 12 days to circle the earth, a distance of 40,000 kilometres. The record distance for a non-refuelled flight was set in 1962 by a U.S. air force B-52 flying from Okinawa, south of Japan, to Madrid, Spain. "A flight like this only became possible recently with the invention of lightweight materials to replace aluminium in the construction of the aircraft fuselage," Rutan said.

Singapore will open pre-university course on marriage

SINGAPORE (R) — A new course on marriage will be introduced in Singapore schools to teach pre-university students how to choose life partners and cope with marital responsibilities. Education Ministry officials said Tuesday. The move follows calls by Prime Minister Lee Kuan Yew for educated Singaporeans to have more children to boost the country's talent pool. The course director, Robert Balhetcher, told Reuters the subject would cover love, children, sex and divorce. A trial run of the course will open next month in four schools for pre-university students aged about 17 or 18, he said. Mr. Balhetcher, a Roman Catholic priest who is a consultant to the ministry, is also project director of the ministry's moral education programme. He said the ministry wanted the course so youngsters could be taught about marriage even before they became emotionally involved. "This is a matter of preparing people for something which is very important. We have taught them on other important areas such as job and everything else, yet so little emphasis is given on marriage," he said.

Bali tiger no longer on Bali

JAKARTA (R) — The Royal Bali tiger has died out on the Indonesian holiday island although a few may still exist in East Java, the official Antara News Agency said Tuesday. It said two were shot dead by hunters last year and none had been seen since despite an extensive search by zoologists.